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China to Use Eugenics to Screen Out Birth Defects

New Law Would Order Abortions, Sterilization And Marriage Control

By Steven Mufson
Washington Post Service

BEIJING — China will use abortions, sterilization and marriage bans to "avoid new births of inferior quality and heighten the standards of the whole population," the official Xinhua press agency said Monday.

The measures will take aim at people likely to pass on congenital illnesses or defects to their children, the report said. It added that the birth of more than 10 million people with those defects could have been prevented.

Under the draft law "On Eugenics and Health Protection" submitted to the National People's Congress, people with hepatitis, venereal disease or mental illness will be barred from marriage, according to the agency.

Pregnant women diagnosed as having certain infectious diseases or abnormal fetuses "will be advised to halt the pregnancy," the agency said. The draft law says that married couples with

Way of arrest and with prices soaring, China reimposed controls on 27 basic items. Page 9.

these illnesses or mental disabilities "should have themselves sterilized," Xinhua added.

Once a law reaches the draft stage and is submitted to the National People's Congress standing committee, approval is usually automatic.

The Public Health Ministry did not spell out how the measures would be implemented, but the impact could be widespread. A large proportion of the population carries hepatitis, an inflammation of the liver often contracted from eating contaminated food or using contaminated needles.

In addition, there are 10.2 million mentally disabled people in China, the government-run People's Daily reported Tuesday.

Citing the annual birth of 300,000 to 400,000 congenitally disabled children every year, Public Health Minister Chen Mjn Zhang told the National People's Congress standing committee that there was an urgent need to reduce the number of abnormal births.

"If this situation continues, it will be a very heavy burden to China's economic construction and a big burden to the state as well as bring disaster to thousands and millions of families and result in a drop in the quality standards of the population," Mr. Chen said, according to the People's Daily.

China has already come under international criticism for its strict policy limiting most families to one child.

The one-child policy, pursued since 1979, has lowered the birth rate below levels needed to replace the population. The birth rate fell to 18.24 births per thousand people in 1992, nearly half the 1970 level.

China has insisted that stringent measures are needed in a country of 1.2 billion people so that population growth does not outstrip the economy. The government has noted that China has 22 percent of the world's population and only 7 percent of its arable land.

In West Bank, A 'Time Bomb' Bitter Foes in Hebron Say Peace Won't Work

By David Hoffman

Washington Post Service

HEBRON, Israel-Occupied West Bank — It was almost dusk as the Jewish boys in skullcaps scampered up the street, chasing the Palestinian boys into their houses. Behind them, Jewish civilian guards carried rifles to protect their young charges.

The Jewish boys then turned around and ran off to bring cookies to a nearby Israeli Army post, as the curious Palestinians watched from the safety of their rooftop.

It was another late afternoon *ti-for-tat* in the streets of Hebron, the ancient city that remains a cradle of hatred between Arabs and Jews. This time, the boys were just playing harmlessly. But in recent weeks, Hebron has once again become a killing ground.

The idea behind the peace accord between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization is to separate two peoples. The agreement envisions that Israelis will be protected in their settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip while the Palestinians police their own lands and run their own government.

But one place where the idea of peace seems to crumble is in Hebron and the nearby Jewish settlement of Kiryat Arba. Along the narrow streets of the city and on the rocky plateaus, the Jews and Arabs of Hebron live closer together than anywhere in the West Bank, and Hebron has become a tinderbox.

In the past two weeks, two settlers from Kiryat Arba and four Palestinians from Hebron and nearby villages have been killed in a cycle of assassination and revenge by the militant Islamic movement Hamas and Jewish vigilantes.

"The extremists' war in Hebron is the ultimate nightmare scenario for supporters of the peace accord. It requires only a few skilled guerrillas on either side to create mayhem. For these fighters, there can be no treaties or diplomacy. The two groups are determined to push each other out. Recently, Hamas issued a leaflet challenging Jewish militants to a deadly fight to the finish.

"If the Arabs start up, we teach them a Jewish lesson," said Baruch Marzel, one of the leaders of the ultranationalist movement Kach, founded by the late Rabbi Meir Kahane, which advocates expulsion of the Arabs from the West Bank. Mr. Marzel added: "We believe God gave the land of Israel — all the land of Israel — to the Jewish people. This is our only country, and people who think it belongs to them don't belong here."

Mr. Marzel, 34, a father of six, sat in a mobile home on a hill overlooking the center of Hebron. He was not armed because Israeli authorities took away his gun more than a year ago, but he spoke bluntly about the imperative of fighting "the enemy," which he defined as 80 to 90 percent of the Palestinian population.

"If Jews will be killed, Arabs will be killed," he said. "This is See **HEBRON**, Page 6



Elias Freij, Bethlehem's mayor, in Manger Square outside city hall Tuesday with the Palestinian flag on display. He threatened to cancel Christmas celebrations if the Israeli authorities carried through with their order to take it down.

Two Factions Report a Pact For Partition Of Bosnia

Serbs and Croats Assert Their Plan Will Meet Muslim Land Demands

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

GENEVA — President Franjo Tudjman of Croatia said Tuesday that Serbs and Croats had reached agreement on a new division of Bosnia that would satisfy Muslim demands for a third of the territory.

Mr. Tudjman said that he and the Serbian leader, Slobodan Milosevic, had agreed to offer President Alija Izetbegovic of Bosnia a division of Bosnia-Herzegovina that would give 33.33 percent of land to the Bosnian Muslims, and 17.5 percent to Bosnian Croats.

Mr. Milosevic called the Serbian-Croatian agreement the "biggest step toward peace so far."

"I believe that conditions have now truly been created for the acceptance of the peace agreement," he said.

The apparent accord, on the first day of resumed peace talks, could be an important step toward peace. International mediators met in the evening with Bosnian government negotiators to see whether they would accept it.

Mr. Tudjman said that he and Mr. Milosevic had made the proposal to the international mediators Lord Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg, who would communicate it to Mr. Izetbegovic. Muslim reaction to the proposal was unknown.

"After long and rather tiring discussions between the Croatian and Serbian delegations, we have reached agreement as to how we shall have 33.33 percent for the Muslims," Mr. Tudjman told reporters.

He said that he and Mr. Milosevic had agreed that Bosnian Croats would get 17.5 percent of the land and Bosnian Serbs slightly under half.

Mr. Tudjman's statement was initially seen as meaning that Serbs and Croats had struck a deal over which territory to concede to the Muslims under a European Community peace plan.

But Croatian officials said that after a day of negotiations differences remained on the details of a new Bosnian map.

Diplomats said that Mr. Izetbegovic had not yet been presented with any new map.

With international mediators and the European Community pressing for a pre-Christmas peace accord, Mr. Izetbegovic, the Bosnian Serb leader, Radovan Karadzic, and the Bosnian Croat leader, Mate Boban, attended the new round of negotiations.

But the day was dominated by negotiations between Mr. Tudjman and Mr. Milosevic and their respective Bosnian protégés, leaving Mr. Izetbegovic waiting in the wings.

Bosnia's Muslim prime minister, Haris Silajdzic, said he could see no sign that Muslim demands would be met, and he called on the European Community to act.

"The purpose of this meeting is to reach an agreement," Mr. Silajdzic said. "Unfortunately, we do not yet see any sign of this agreement."

Asked about Muslim demands — backed by the European Community — for at least a third of Bosnian territory plus a port on the Adriatic Sea, Mr. Silajdzic said: "These are the minimum of the minimum. We hope that this time the European Union will be able to deliver."

Bosnia's Muslim-led assembly rejected a previous peace plan, reached in September under negotiations mediated by Lord Owen, representing the European Community, and Mr. Stoltenberg, representing the United Nations, because it gave the Muslims only 30 percent of the territory in a new union of Bosnian republics.

The current negotiations are based on a new EC peace plan which offers the carrot of the gradual relaxation of UN sanctions on Serbia in return for concessions to the Muslims taking their share of territory to at least 33.3 percent.

The EC position was spelled out in a briefing document drafted by the German foreign minister, Klaus Kinkel, and endorsed by Germany's partners in the Community.

The document, given to the Russian foreign minister, Andrei V. Kozhev, by Mr. Kinkel over the weekend, tells each side what is needed for a peace accord.

EC diplomats expected the document to be officially delivered to the parties in Brussels during talks there with EC foreign ministers on Wednesday.

The document demands that the Serbs stop shelling Sarajevo and Tuzla. It also calls for them to cede more land around Muslim enclaves in the east and to guarantee a Muslim republic access to the Sava River in the north.

From the Croats, the document calls for Muslims to be given access to the sea via Croatia's Prevlaka Peninsula as well as through the port of Ploce further north.

It tells the Croats that the Bosnian port of Neum would remain part of Bosnia if Croatia annexes Croat-held parts of Bosnia.

(Reuters, AFP, AP)

Vote Boycott Seems Probable as South Africa Talks Fail

By Paul Taylor

Washington Post Service

CAPE TOWN — Talks aimed at bringing recalcitrant white rightists and black homeland parties into South Africa's first all-races election crashed Tuesday on the eve of a deadline, increasing the chances that some parties will boycott the April 27 vote.

Members of the so-called Freedom Alliance had hoped, as their price for participating in the campaign, to win agreements that extra powers for regions would be written into a new South African constitution due to be approved by

Parliament on Wednesday. But they were unable to strike a deal in around-the-clock three-way talks with the white minority government and the African National Congress.

The failure of the talks, though by no means a surprise, came as a setback because it had been preceded by weeks of public posturing by all sides about the likelihood of a settlement. No party wants to head into the election campaign being perceived as a deal breaker.

The latest stalemate has elevated the level of public anxiety in a country surging full speed ahead into the unknown. South Africa is about

to cross the Rubicon from white minority to black majority rule, at a time when it is experiencing record levels of political violence and almost daily threats of sabotage, secession or civil war emanating from hard-liners who fear the new political order.

"I am bitterly, bitterly disappointed," the Freedom Alliance's chief negotiator, Rowan Cronje, said when it was clear the talks were going nowhere. Some hours later he was more philosophical, suggesting that it was "not the end of the world."

"There are weeks and months ahead to try to find a solution," he said, expressing a sentiment echoed by government and ANC negotiators.

All parties left open the possibility that Parliament might reconvene in January to consider amendments to the new constitution. In any event, parties have until February to decide whether to take part in the vote. The ones with the most difficult choice are the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party and the Afrikaner-based Conservative Party.

Though both represent only a small sliver of

See **CLASH**, Page 6

U.S. and Seoul 'Out of Sync' Toward North

By David E. Sanger

New York Times Service

SEOUL — In Washington these days, North Korea is often portrayed as the Libya or Iraq of the mid-90s: a barking, unpredictable regime run by a mysterious zealot, secretly pursuing nuclear weapons and ready to pounce on its neighbors at a moment's notice.

But here in Seoul, within artillery range of

U.S. and North Korea report progress while China publicly opposes pressure tactics. Page 6.

North Korea, the North's nuclear weapons project is rarely discussed, or just shrugged off. "I don't think people's worries have changed much in recent days," said Kim Ji Young, 27, a trading company executive. "North Koreans are still the Korean people. I don't feel they are making this weapon to bomb us."

Mr. Kim's view is echoed all around Seoul, from coffee shops to the television talk shows, and even in the government ministries that for



LOCKERBIE MEMORIAL — President Bill Clinton and a son of one of the passengers killed on Pan American Flight 103 five years ago during a ceremony on Tuesday. Page 2.

Mrs. Clinton Rejects Stories Of Husband's Infidelity

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

WASHINGTON — Hillary Rodham Clinton stood by her man on Tuesday, denouncing allegations of her husband's sexual misbehavior as "outrageous, terrible stories."

Mrs. Clinton, in an interview with The Associated Press, said the accusations were being spread by her husband's enemies and by two Arkansas police troopers for "political and financial reasons."

"For me," she said, "it's pretty sad that we're still subjected to these kind of attacks for political and financial gain from people, and that it is sad that, especially here in the Christmas season, people for their own purposes would be attacking my family."

Two Arkansas troopers, who worked on President Bill Clinton's security detail when he was governor, claim they helped arrange sexual encounters for him. Their lawyer, Cliff Jackson of Little Rock, Arkansas, is an enemy of Mr. Clinton's who made frequent accusations in 1992 that Mr. Clinton dodged the Vietnam draft. Mrs. Clinton said Mr. Jackson was part of a group of Arkansas residents "that has become obsessed with the president."

The fresh allegations of sexual impropriety

washed over President Clinton just when he should have been basking in a holiday glow of achievement over the improving economy and a world trade deal.

Mrs. Clinton stated that the attacks seem to come whenever Mr. Clinton's political fortunes are blossoming, such as his solid showing in the New Hampshire primary and a recent jump in opinion polls.

"I find it oot an accident that every time he is on the verge of fulfilling his commitment to the American people and they respond," she said, "but comes yet a new round of these outrageous, terrible stories that people plant for political and financial reasons."

Asked if she thought the troopers — Roger L. Perry, 44, and Larry G. Patterson, 49 — were making money off the story, she said, "That seems to be the story." The troopers said they intended to write a book on their experiences as Mr. Clinton's bodyguards.

Mr. Clinton's life was further complicated when the White House acknowledged that personal financial files of the president and his wife were removed from the office of Vincent W. Foster Jr. after his suicide in July and before

work in Altlandsberg, a placid village 25 kilometers from Berlin, and he took a post at a nearby clinic.

Dr. Gujjula became involved in several community projects, and in March 1989 he sought a seat on the town council. Despite a clause in East German law allowing such candidacies, he was barred from the ballot. After writing a letter of protest to Egon Krenz, a top Communist leader, he lost his job.

In local elections held in March 1990, Dr. Gujjula was allowed to run for the council, and he won handily. He opened his private medical practice as an internist around the same time. His office is on the ground floor of the town hall building.

The mayor's job is unpaid, and Dr. Gujjula intends to continue practicing medicine. Dur-

Dow Jones		S&P 500	
Down	10.06	Up	0.12%
	3,745.15		109.89

The Dollar		Yen, close		Previous close	
DM	1.707		1.7129		
DM	1.4886		1.4886		
Yen	111.129		110.60		
FF	5.8115		5.838		

Newsstand Prices	
Andorra	9.00 FF
Antilles	11.20 FF
Comoros	7.00 CFA
Egypt	9.00 FF
France	9.00 FF
Gabon	400 CFA
Greece	280 Dr.
Ivory Coast	540 CFA
Jordan	1 JD
Lebanon	USS 1.50
Luxembourg	40 L. Fr
Morocco	8.00 Riads
Qatar	8.00 Riads
Reunion	11.20 FF
Saudi Arabia	9.00 R.
Senegal	400 CFA
Spain	200 Ptas
Tunisia	1,000 Din
Turkey	T.L. 10,000
U.A.E.	8.50 Dirh
U.S. Mil. (Eur.)	\$1.10

Kiosk Prosecutors Want Craxi to Be Tried

MILAN (Reuters) — Italian anti-graft prosecutors requested Tuesday that former Prime Minister Bettino Craxi stand trial for corruption.

Mr. Craxi, one of the most prominent politicians ensnared in Italy's huge corruption scandals, was among 13 people whom Milan prosecutors requested be brought to trial in a bribery case. The former Socialist leader, who was prime minister from 1983 to 1987, faces other investigations, but it was the first time a request had been made that he be tried.

The petition must be considered by senior magistrates. If it is approved, it could take several months to set a date for trial.

W. E. Deming, 'God of Quality Control,' Dies

W. Edwards Deming, known as the "god of quality control," who helped Japan rebuild its shattered industries after World War II, died of cancer Monday in Washington at the age of 93.

Mr. Deming, who served as a U.S. government statistician before and during World War II, taught Japanese how to use statistical methods to discover the cause of product defects. And he preached that all workers, not just management, should be committed to improving quality. (Pages 3 and 9)

German Town Turns Prejudice on Its Ear

By Stephen Kinzer

ALTLANDSBERG, Germany — Even before this week, Dr. Ravindra Gujjula was unusual in Germany. Not many foreigners have come here from faraway lands and risen to positions of professional success and respected community leadership.

Dr. Gujjula has taken a step into German political history by winning election as mayor of Altlandsberg, his adopted hometown. At a moment when intolerance and racist violence dominate much of the news, his election suggested that prejudice has not, after all, consumed the national soul.

Some German communities have mayors of Swiss or Austrian background, but until now there have been none from foreign continents or cultures. There is believed to be only one other elected official in the country who was

born outside the German cultural sphere, Ismail Hakkı Kozan, a Turkish Kurd who is on the Berlin City Council.

"This December is the 20th anniversary of my coming to Germany," Dr. Gujjula said. "The election result is really the best present the people here could have given me."

"These voters gave a clear signal. They said that when it comes to choosing their own local leaders, skin color plays no role. If that can have an effect on national politics, then good."

Dr. Gujjula, 38, was a teenager in Hyderabad, India, when he won a scholarship to study medicine in East Germany.

Soon after arriving at the Hansenic port of Greifswald, he met a German woman in Leipzig. They married and have two children, 15 and 10.

After finishing his education, Dr. Gujjula decided to stay in Germany. His wife had found

WORLD BRIEFS

Ex-Communists in German East Prove Their Resiliency

By Rick Atkinson
Washington Post Service

POTSDAM, Germany — Rolf Kutzmutz seemed to have all the advantages in his bid to become mayor of this dilapidated dowager of a city.

As a candidate he was affable, well-organized and telegenic, a politician with a plausible program and a good haircut. His opponent was a lackluster incumbent with a walrus mustache. The electorate appeared angry and ready for a change.

But when the results were tallied the voters of Potsdam, like those elsewhere in Eastern Germany, showed they were not quite angry enough to hand the government back to a former Communist Party functionary or the Party of Democratic Socialism, successor to the gang that ruled East Germany for four decades.

Mr. Kutzmutz lost the mayoral runoff on Sunday, 55 percent to 45 percent, to Horst Gramlich, a Social Democrat. In a race that attracted media coverage across Germany, Mr. Gramlich rallied voters from other mainstream parties by warning that investors would flee Potsdam if the former Communists captured city hall.

How long the party can be held at bay, however, remains to be seen.

The near-miss by Mr. Kutzmutz, a former Communist apparition who acknowledges once serving as an informant for the Stasi security police, symbolizes the former Communists' resurgence as a political force in Eastern Germany.

Stressing an unemployment rate of 15 percent in the East and the resentment many feel toward their richer, domineering cousins to the West, the party snared 21 percent of the vote in local elections this month in Brandenburg, the large state encircling Berlin. The former Communists outpolled even the Christian Democratic Union of Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

Mr. Kutzmutz and most other politicians in his party profess to have shed Marxist doctrine for a more mainstream ideology out unlike that of the left-leaning Social Democrats.

"You can vote for me without turning red," he told voters. "My main promises are to work for affordable rents and to create jobs."

Overhauling specific campaign vows, however, is an appeal to an emerging regional patriotism. Mr. Kutzmutz's party — its membership of 145,000 is by far the biggest in Eastern Germany — shows signs of becoming a repository for Eastern voters who feel disenfranchised or disenchanted as the so-called "losers of German unity."

That their political forebears ran an oppressive totalitarian state that collapsed beneath the weight of its own inefficiencies is something many voters appear willing to forgive, if not forget.

An Allensbach Institute poll published last week indicated that only 35 percent of East Germans surveyed have a favorable opinion of the capitalist economic system imposed by the West. That is less than half the number at the time of reunification in 1990. Nearly one-third would welcome a return of socialism in some form, up from 20 percent in mid-1992.

Mr. Kutzmutz's campaign slogans tried to tap this simmering discontent while also shoring up the eroding Eastern sense of self-worth.

"I won't let my self-respect be taken away," he vowed in one flyer, implicitly suggesting that the West Germans have plundered everything else. In a pointed appeal to the many Potsdam residents who had ties to the Communists or the Stasi before the Berlin Wall fell four years ago, he declared, "My biography did not begin in 1989."

Such pitches fell short on Sunday. Clearly the former Communists have a great deal of ground to make up if their comeback is to jell; polls show them particularly weak among rural voters, the young, and those in the southeastern state of Saxony. But their resurgence has triggered enough alarm bells in the mainstream parties to bring a proposal from several Western conservatives that the party be outlawed.

Even those Western politicians who reject such a move acknowledge their desire to keep the party out of parliament in next year's federal elections.

Under special rules for the 1990 election, the requirement that a party get at least 5 percent of all votes cast in order to be represented in Bonn was waived for Eastern parties. Thus the Party of Democratic Socialism now holds 17 of 662 Bundestag seats. But the 5 percent requirement returns in 1994. Another possibility is outright victory in three or more constituencies, an achievement rewarded with additional seats allotted on a proportional basis.

Either way, the former Communists appear to have a fair shot at returning to Bonn in force, a prospect that will complicate coalition politics next year.

2 Sides Meet in Athens Bus Dispute

ATHENS (AFP) — Officials met Tuesday with private bus operators the day after a man died in clashes with police during a strike to protest the Socialist government's plans to nationalize public transport.

A pathologist's report said a 56-year-old driver had died from a heart attack, but witnesses said he had been beaten by police shortly before his death. Stylianos-Angelos Pappathemis, public order minister, said the police had moved in at three of the city's five bus depots after reports that men were armed with guns and explosives. An officer and a striker were wounded in the clashes, officials said.

Mr. Pappathemis met Tuesday with representatives of eight private bus cooperatives whose members had kept the capital's 1,700 buses in their depots in a weeklong dispute. The drivers are demanding compensation, a delay in implementation of the law and creation of a private sector to compete with the public service.

Singapore's No. 2 Gets More Power

SINGAPORE (AFP) — Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong reshuffled his cabinet Tuesday, bringing a new generation of politicians into the Singapore government but also handing his heir-apparent, Lee Hsien Loong, wider powers.

The new team saw Mr. Lee, who stepped down as trade and industry minister in November to undergo chemotherapy, retained as deputy prime minister and given the additional responsibilities of overseeing the trade and defense portfolios.

Mr. Goh also named Mr. Lee, the 41-year-old elder son of Lee Kuan Yew, to replace him as chairman of the Ministerial Economic Committee in the changes, which take effect Jan. 2. A statement from the prime minister's office announcing the changes said Mr. Lee's doctors had confirmed that his lymphoma was in complete remission, with a 20 percent risk of recurrence in the first two years.

Toll Mounts in Beirut Car-Bombing

BEIRUT (AP) — Rescue workers found the body of a baby boy on Tuesday in a house next to the bomb-devastated headquarters of the Phalangist Party. His death raised the toll in an attack on Monday evening to three killed and 130 wounded.

The car-bombing was the worst in almost two years. It caused both Christian and Muslim leaders to voice fears that it might signal a return to factional terrorism three years after the end of Lebanon's civil war.

"This bombing is evidence that terrorist methods of the civil war are still in practice," said Karim Pakradouni, secretary-general of the rightist Phalangist party of Maronite Christians. The statement by Mr. Pakradouni, who was vacationing in Paris, was broadcast by Christian-controlled radio stations. Tamam Salam, the Sunni Muslim leader of the Makassed philanthropic organization, spoke of a return of the "black hands of terror." He urged authorities to chop them off.

Australia Bill Backs Aborigine Rights

CANBERRA (AP) — To the joy of aborigines and their sympathizers, the Senate voted Wednesday to let Australia's original inhabitants press territorial claims to as much as one-tenth of the continent.

The native land title bill was approved in a 34-to-30 vote. It now goes to the House of Representatives, Parliament's other chamber, where passage is assured. The bill culminated a long national debate over how to balance the rights of aborigines with the interests of Australia's powerful miners, ranchers and other businessmen and landowners.

"This has been the longest continuing problem that Australia has faced for 200 years, recognizing that indigenous people, that native people, had the right to their own soil," said Prime Minister Paul Keating, who pressed for the law. The bill gives aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders the right to make claims on territory held by the federal and state governments if they can prove their unbroken connection to the land.

Taiwan and China Far From Accord

TAIPEI (Reuters) — China and Taiwan, nearing the end of their latest round of talks in Taipei, remained far from agreement Tuesday over the repatriation of Chinese hijackers and other major issues.

Taiwan's chief negotiator, Hsu Hwei-yow, said the talks had bogged down over Taiwan's judicial cooperation, which China does not recognize. Mr. Hsu said negotiators had only one more day to reach agreement; detailed discussions are to end Wednesday afternoon. He said earlier that Taiwan was prepared to see the talks close without any agreements.

U.S. Alleges Iran Persecutes Baha'is

UNITED NATIONS, New York (AP) — The United States has accused Iran of human rights violations and religious persecution, citing death sentences against three members of the Baha'i faith. The accusation was made Monday as the General Assembly reported widespread human rights abuses in Iran. The vote criticizing Iran's rights record was 74-23, with 51 abstentions.

A U.S. delegate, Victor Marrero, said that a recent UN rights report on Iran criticized the death sentences against two Baha'is held without charges since April 1989. A third Baha'i recently has been condemned, he said. He urged "all nations who oppose racism, intolerance and deliberate abuse of human rights" to support a resolution critical of Iran.

For the Record

Dominos Pizza Inc., which built the world's largest pizza business by promising delivery within 30 minutes, dropped its guarantee Tuesday. The decision followed a jury award in St. Louis, Missouri, of \$79 million in damages to a woman struck by a Domino's driver who had passed a red light in 1989. (AP)

TRAVEL UPDATE

Heavy Storms Swamp German Cities

BONN (Reuters) — Storms swamped German cities in floodwaters on Tuesday, closed Belgian hospitals and schools, and cut Norway's oil exports. At least two people were killed as gale-whipped floods surged through southern Germany, officials said.

The Rhine, fed by swollen tributaries and rainfall, was closed to commercial shipping for a 50-kilometer stretch between Cologne and Oberwinter near Bonn. Towns were cut off and schools closed for the day in wide areas of Bavaria, Rheinland-Palatinate and Saar states after weekend downpours picked up force beginning Monday.

Dinant, a picturesque town on the Meuse River, was cut off and several schools were flooded. About 100 people were stranded in their homes and four boats were delivering essential supplies, an official at a flood crisis center in Brussels said.

Lake Geneva, the largest lake in Western Europe, is becoming cleaner, the international commission for the protection of its waters said in Lausanne on Tuesday. The commission's report said the amount of phosphorus in the lake, which is shared by Switzerland and France, had fallen by 44.3 percent since 1979. (AFP)

Hundreds of South Africans have written to city authorities in the coastal resort of Durban demanding that they reimpose a ban on topless sun-bathing. The state radio said on Tuesday about 1,000 people, many in the conservative heartland of Transvaal and the Orange Free State, had asked the mayor of Durban to reverse a recent relaxation of curbs on nudity. (Reuters)

Giovanni Cimabue's "Holy Trinity" is back in Florence's Uffizi after restoration, with the work sticking to schedule despite a bombing in May that heavily damaged the museum. (AP)

A streamlined version of Japan's Shinkansen bullet train sped Tuesday to what a railroad official said was the second-fastest rail speed, 425 kilometers an hour (265 miles an hour) in a test run of the prototype in Niigata on the Japan Sea coast early Tuesday. This is still far short of the world record, set by France's TGV at 515.3 kph in 1990. (Reuters)

Airlines using Hong Kong's Kai Tak airport have agreed to regulations to deter tardy passengers: If they don't arrive on time, take off without them. From Jan. 1, Kai Tak check-in desks will close 40 minutes before departure and boarding gates 10 minutes before, the Civil Aviation Department said. (AP)

IRA Political Chief Urges Direct Talks

By Eugene Robinson
Washington Post Service

LONDON — The leader of the Irish Republican Army's political wing called Tuesday for "direct and unconditional" talks with the British and Irish governments, but indicated that the IRA had made no decision on whether to abandon its violent campaign to drive the British out of Northern Ireland.

In his first formal response to a peace initiative launched last week by the two governments, Gerry Adams, leader of Sinn Fein — a legal political party linked to the outlawed IRA — said he and his allies wanted to make the initiative "the beginning of the end" of the conflict.

But Mr. Adams told a Belfast news conference that Prime Minister John Major of Britain and Prime Minister Albert Reynolds of Ireland were giving contradictory versions of what their much-heralded joint declaration really means. And Mr. Adams repeated his call for a release of IRA prisoners to be part of any negotiated settlement — something Britain has ruled out.

Mr. Adams' remarks suggested that the IRA intended to take its time in responding to the British-Irish declaration, which offered Sinn Fein a seat at the bargaining table within three months if it renounces violence. The remarks also but dashed hopes that the IRA's traditional Christmas cease-fire would be extended into a permanent peace.

As if to underscore that it has not capitulated, the IRA used bomb threats Tuesday to shut down much of London's commuter railroad system. Nearly 40 rail stations in the southern suburbs and two

downtown subway lines were closed for much of the morning, turning rush hour into chaos and thwarting thousands of Christmas shoppers.

Mr. Adams was careful not to reject the peace offer out of hand, while at the same time making it clear that the IRA wanted more concessions.

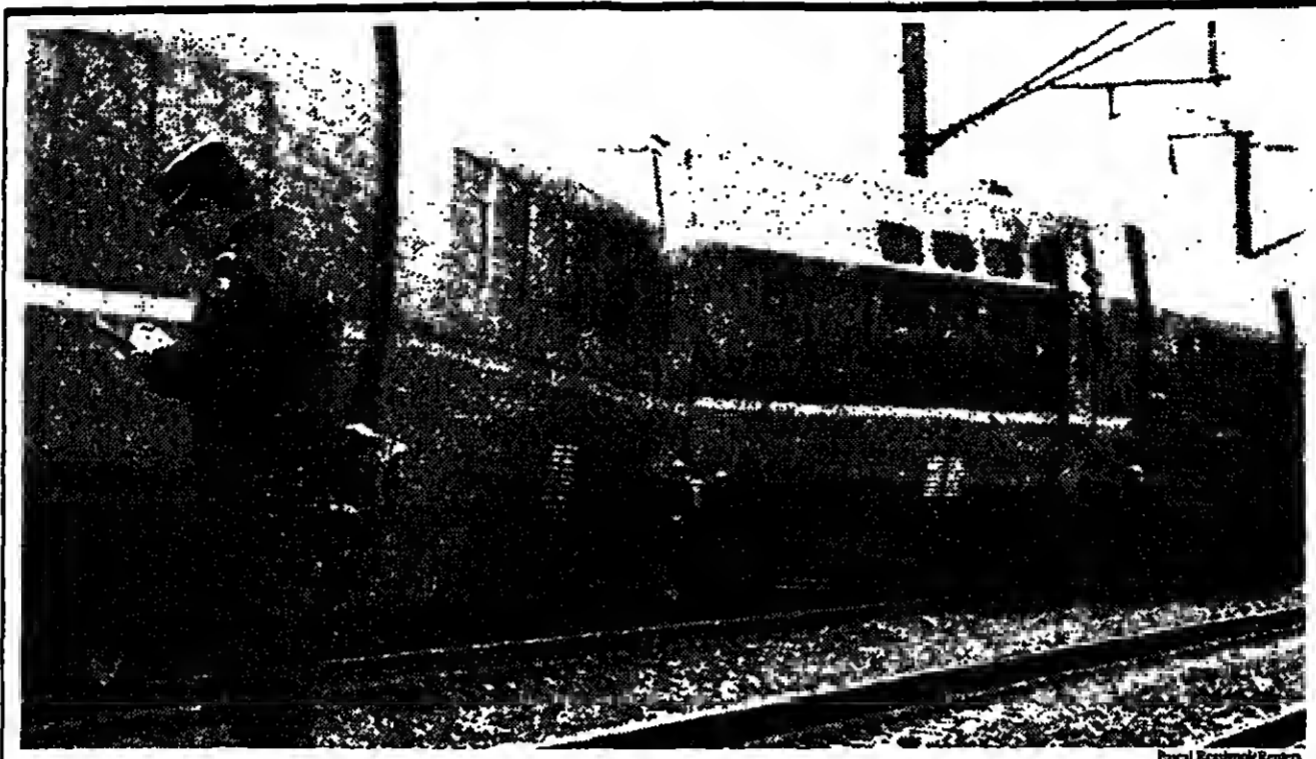
"We are optimistic that if properly managed, a process to bring about a lasting peace can be established," Mr. Adams said. But he added that the peace process would be "difficult, dangerous and protracted," and said Sinn Fein "will not be intimidated by any threats from the British government, nor will we be diverted by a carrot-and-stick approach."

Mr. Adams said he had not yet even spoken with the leadership of the Provisional IRA — the military wing — about the peace bid. It is anticipated that it could take up to several weeks for the IRA to make a final decision about a cease-fire.

The Sinn Fein leader's call for "direct and unconditional dialogue" with the two governments is at odds with the stance taken by Mr. Major and Mr. Reynolds, who say they will not hold talks with Sinn Fein until it renounces violence.

Mr. Adams also mentioned the apparent difference of opinion between London and Dublin over an amnesty for the hundreds of IRA members being held in British prisons. Mr. Reynolds said over the weekend that a prisoner release might be considered as part of an overall settlement, but British officials firmly ruled out any amnesty.

"Obviously, prisoners have to be released as part of any peace process," Mr. Adams said.



TGV JUMPS THE TRACKS — A gentamie inspecting a train on France's TGV high-speed network that derailed Tuesday at 300 kilometers an hour. Six persons among the 211 passengers were slightly injured in the incident, near Amiens in northern France. Officials blamed a dip in the ground caused by rain. The TGV stayed upright because its cars were tightly linked into a "backbone."

Clinton Marks Lockerbie Deaths With a Vow

New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Up the hill from the graves of John F. and Robert F. Kennedy, and past the old amphitheater of Arlington National Cemetery a 5-year-old boy who never knew his father stood in the raw morning cold next to the president of the United States.

Nicholas Bright was six months old when his father became one of the 270 killed when a terrorist bomb exploded aboard Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland.

On Tuesday, Nicholas participated in the ground-breaking ceremony for a memorial cairn, a Scottish monument, to the victims that was approved unanimously by Congress for the cemetery.

But President Bill Clinton cast the disaster in terms of an armed struggle and vowed to push for prosecutions in the case. "Our nation will never stop pursuing justice on those individuals who caused the tragedy," he said.

Mr. Clinton said that the bombing and terrorist attacks were responses to the spread of democracy around the world.

"With terrorism they lash back," he said. "We saw it at the World Trade Center. We saw it in an attempt to assassinate former President Bush." In retaliation for the alleged attempt by Iraq to assassinate former President George Bush, Mr. Clinton ordered a missile attack on Baghdad last summer.

The Lockerbie Monument will be constructed from 270 red rose stones brought from a Scottish quarry, and will rest in an area suitable for graves. All of the mourners were colorful corsages of lavender heather and a tartan ribbon, and some had pictures of the victims pinned to their coats.

No suspects have been brought to trial for the bombing, but two Libyan suspects have been indicted. "It is imperative we have a complete investigation to determine who is responsible," said Senator Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts, who has fought for sanctions, including a "complete and total embargo" against Libya until the suspects are brought to trial in the United States. Thirteen victims were from Massachusetts.

MAYOR: Turning Back Prejudice

Continued from Page 1
ing the campaign, he had to assure anxious patients that they would not lose his services if he were elected.

He willingly rolls out of bed at midnight when called by the parent of a sick child, and on the side dispenses discreet personal advice to patients whose problems transcend the physical.

"People know him as a very good person who enjoys helping," said the proprietor of a shop facing one of the obsolescent streets. "I don't think there's any prejudice against him."

There is at least some. An elderly man parking his Trabanc on the town hall sortered, "It stinks."

"Germans have no feel for their nation anymore," the man complained. "We're giving our country away to foreigners. I fought in the Wehrmacht, and I can tell you that this is not what German soldiers did for."

The vote count in Sunday's elec-

tion suggested that such opinions are in the minority. Dr. Guggula won 617 votes, leaving his opponent, an incumbent from Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democratic Union, with 330. Residents said the only voter not born in Germany was Dr. Guggula.

Reflecting a growing trend in local German politics, Dr. Guggula ran not as the candidate of any party, but as representative of a local initiative called Citizens for Altlandsberg. He stressed local issues like traffic congestion and excessive street noise.

One of his major goals as mayor, he said, will be to attract several hundred new families to live here, among them government bureaucrats from Bonn who will be transferred to Berlin as the capital moves there by the end of the decade.

In his 20 years in East Germany, Dr. Guggula said, he has never been the object of a racial threat or assault.

Yeltsin Abolishes Security Ministry

Reuters

MOSCOW — President Boris N. Yeltsin abruptly abolished the Security Ministry on Tuesday, saying the huge force, successor to the KGB, was "incapable of being reformed."

Mr. Yeltsin issued a decree stipulating that the Security Ministry would be replaced by a federal counterintelligence service and made it clear that an extensive purge of security personnel would take place.

The Russian leader, who criticized the ministry for passivity during an armed parliamentary revolt in October, said the security forces had been slowing down reforms and that attempts at reorganization had been mainly cosmetic.

He also accused the ministry of lacking a strategic concept of Russia's state security and said its counterintelligence work had been poor.

The ministry has been attacked for failing to predict the success of nationalists in parliamentary elections last week that marked a setback for economic reformers.

Mr. Yeltsin's decree said that the new service would be headed by

Security Minister Nikolai M. Goulsko.

Yeltsin Sees Protest Vote

Margaret Shapiro of The Washington Post reported from Moscow.

Mr. Yeltsin, in his first public comment on the strong electoral showing by ultranationalists, said Tuesday that the vote was intended as a protest by Russians against their increasing impoverishment and was not a sign that the country was sliding toward fascism.

"Don't forget the poor," he said during a visit to an architecture exposition in Moscow. "It was they who voted for the Liberal Democratic Party. They weren't voting for their leader or platform, but in protest against poverty."

Mr. Yeltsin turned aside further questions on the results of the Dec. 12 elections, which have handed him a sharply divided parliament.

He also accused the ministry of lacking a strategic concept of Russia's state security and said its counterintelligence work had been poor.

The ministry has been attacked for failing to predict the success of nationalists in parliamentary elections last week that marked a setback for economic reformers.

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Russian Elections Prove Good for Lenin's Tenure

The Associated Press

MOSCOW — The campaign to remove Lenin from his tomb on Red Square has been derailed by the success of Communists and nationalists in parliamentary elections.

The Russian government has better things to do than worry about whether to remove the Bolshevik revolutionary from his place of honor and bury him, a spokesman for President Boris N. Yeltsin said Tuesday.

"It's not the most important issue for the country," said the spokesman, Anatoli Krasikov. "It has to be resolved, but we cannot think about the dead at the expense of our pressing needs."

Just last month, the mayor of St. Petersburg had suggested that Lenin be buried next to his mother and two sisters in St. Petersburg's Volkovskovo Cemetery on Jan. 21, the 70th anniversary of his death in 1924.

Government officials had said before the Dec. 12 elections that Lenin's final resting place would be decided by the new parliament after it convened in January.

"It will be decided," Mr. Krasikov said Tuesday, "but so far, it's not its turn. Public debate is under way, and it will be taken into account." The issue could be sent instead to Moscow's new city council, which is dominated by reformers more likely to favor Lenin's removal.

While the most pro-Yeltsin party, Russia's Choice, ended up winning more seats in the new parliament than any other party, the anti-reform bloc will have the most seats. There will also be a substantial bloc of independent legislators, whose allegiance is now actively being sought by all sides.

The new parliament is scheduled to meet for the first time Jan. 11 to try to pick its leaders. There has been much maneuvering, with pro and anti-Yeltsin forces trying to come up with a parliament coalition large enough to claim a working majority.

As it stands now, the anti-reform bloc seems closer to achieving the task, with Communist and pro-Communist groups apparently willing to work with Mr. Zhirinovskiy on at least some issues.

Japan Recognizes Macedonia

Reuters

TOKYO — Japan on Tuesday recognized the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia, which declared independence in 1991 and joined the United Nations in April.

Caretaker Elected as Hungary's Prime Minister

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
BUDAPEST — The parliament on Tuesday elected Peter Boross, a 65-year-old conservative with a reputation for toughness and efficiency, as prime minister, succeeding the late Jozsef Antall.

Mr. Boross's endorsement, by a vote of 201 to 152 with 5 abstentions, marked a practically seamless transfer of power that political leaders said was intended to ensure continuity in Hungary's march toward free-market democracy.

The acting speaker of the parliament proclaimed Mr. Boross prime minister after the vote, in which deputies were also asked to approve the government's program.

Mr. Boross had headed the caretaker government that took power when Mr. Antall died on Dec. 12 after a long battle against cancer. He was Mr. Antall's interior minister and trusted lieutenant.

He has repeatedly stressed that he wants to continue Mr. Antall's

policy of building the former Communist state into a market democracy with ideals anchored in European tradition.

"If I am elected, the new government will regard itself as the continuation of Antall's legacy," he said before the vote in an address to the parliament.

Mr. Boross appointed Imre Konya, the former Hungarian Democratic Forum parliamentary group leader, as interior minister. He did not reshuffle Mr. Antall's cabinet otherwise. (Reuters, AFP)

EBEL
the architects of time
FRANCE: ARFAN, PARIS GERMANY: ANDREAS HUBER, MÜNCHEN
ITALY: PISA, MILANO
SWITZERLAND: LES AMBASSADEURS, ZÜRICH, GENEVA
LIECHTENSTEIN: HUBER, VADUZ
UNITED KINGDOM: MAPPIN & WEBB, LONDON
SAUDI ARABIA: AL-GHAZALI, RIYADH
JAPAN: KANAYAMA, TOKYO
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STATESIDE / UP AND DOWN AT JUSTICE

After the Media's Gushing for Janet Reno, the Goring

By Howard Kurtz

WASHINGTON — After the fiery cult disaster at Waco, Texas, last April, Attorney General Janet Reno became a media celebrity of near-mythic proportions.

There was lunch with Don Johnson and dinner with Barbara Streisand, an "Amie Leibowitz" photo shoot for Vogue and a glowing cover story in Time magazine.

"Clearly the star of the cabinet," the Los Angeles Times declared. "The 6-foot, 2-inch crime fighter, whose mother wrestled alligators, has reached that rare place where her stature outweighs her president," said U.S. News & World Report.

But the media have a way of launching public figures into the stratosphere and then yanking them back to Earth without a parachute.

Washington ritual, the press pack has suddenly opened fire on Ms. Reno, often using anonymous quotes for ammunition.

"Doubts on Reno's Competence Rise in Justice Department," a front-page New York Times headline said in October. The Washington Post reported last month "a growing disillusionment among many who once saw Reno as an advocate for change."

"How did the winds suddenly shift on 'Hurricane Reno,' as USA Today once called her? "A good case can be made that Reno and company used the press to their advantage early on and that Reno's detractors are using the press pretty well against her now," said Terry Eastland, editor of Forbes Media Critic magazine and a Justice Department spokesman in the Reagan administration.

Carl Stern, Ms. Reno's chief spokesman, put it this way: "It seems there's a Newton's law of physics that also applies to journalism: If you've reached a point where you've printed too much complimentary material about a person, then they will be accused of journalistic flaccidity; you are obliged to go out and dig up something derogatory."

The daughter of journalists and the sister of a Newsday columnist, Ms. Reno recognized from the start that the national media's portrait of her bore only partial resemblance to reality. The former Miami prosecutor clipped reporters in a July speech at the National Press Club.

"You have created a myth of this lady from the swamps," Ms. Reno said, when she is merely "a 54-year-old, awkward old maid." She said journalists were too concerned with "appearances" and "not enough with substance."

"You love to stir up fights. You contribute to the hype and the spin. I don't do spin." The negative shift in Ms. Reno's coverage is not unlike the recent spate of stories about White House dissatisfaction with the departing defense secretary, Les Aspin. Or the bad-press buildup that preceded the resignations of top officials in previous administrations.

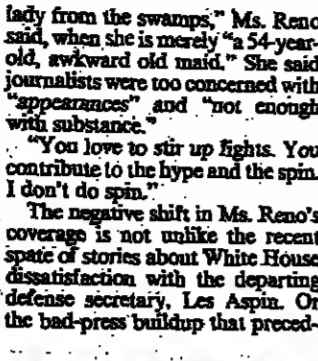
Oddly enough, the attorney general is now being criticized for the same quirky independence that won her plaudits last spring. When President Bill Clinton nominated Ms. Reno in February after problems sank his first two choices, Zoe Baird and Kimba M. Wood, the press generally provided upbeat accounts of her 15 years as Dade County's top prosecutor.

The Waco raid, which made Ms. Reno a celebrity, was by any measure a disaster. Her approval of the FBI assault on the cult leader David Koresh's Branch Davidian compound resulted in the deaths of 83 people.

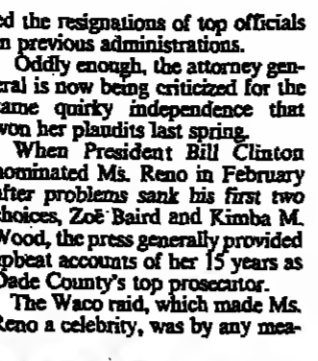
In Washington, however, appearances are often more important than reality. Ms. Reno quickly appeared on the four major networks to take personal responsibility for the tragedy. She faced down a press corps that she said looked like "a bunch of hungry wolves." The wolves were quickly tamed. Newsweek said Ms. Reno had "turned a real disaster into a Beltway triumph."

Time observed that "the capital is all agog at the new attorney general's outspoken honesty." Ms. Reno's take-charge image had become more important than the reality of her flawed decision. Six months later, a Justice Department review found, among other things, that Ms. Reno had been wrong in contending that children were being abused inside the compound. Ms. Reno said she had misunderstood an FBI briefer.

By then, of course, Janet Reno was a certified folk hero. Profiles invariably described her as a scuba diver who chainsaws trees for relaxation. A U.S. News article drew her lassooing a huge alligator, though it was her mother who had done battle in the swamps.



Janet Reno passing the phone during Bill Clinton's telephone conference with American mayors on crime prevention.



Paul J. Richards/Agence France-Press



Janet Reno passing the phone during Bill Clinton's telephone conference with American mayors on crime prevention.

Successes Help Clinton's Ratings Bounce Back

By Dan Balz

WASHINGTON — A series of legislative victories and brighter economic news appear to have helped shore up President Bill Clinton's standing with the American people, who now give him his highest approval ratings since the first months of his presidency.

43 percent in June and had hovered around 50 percent since early September. He now ranks better than did Ronald Reagan at a similar point in his presidency. Reagan's approval ratings fell to 49 percent at the end of 1982, as the economy was heading into a deep recession. Mr. Clinton is at parity with Jimmy Carter (57 percent) but still lower than George Bush was at the end of his first year in office (71 percent).

The Post-ABC poll showed across-the-board improvement in Mr. Clinton's standing with the public. Mr. Clinton's rebound occurred after several legislative victories that closed out the first session of Congress, particularly the North American Free Trade Agreement and the Brady handgun control bill. In addition, the administration successfully negotiated a world trade agreement, GATT, that had been stalemated for several years.

TRYSTS: 'Outrageous Stories'

Continued from Page 1. FBI agents had a chance to examine them. Mark D. Gearan, the White House director of communications, said the files that were removed included documents relating to the Clintons' personal tax returns and their investment in an unsuccessful real estate company, the Whitewater Development Corp., which has been linked to an investigation of a failed savings and loan in Arkansas.

Personal files of Mr. Foster, a deputy White House counsel who shot himself, were also removed without being shown to investigators at the direction of the White House counsel, Bernard Nussbaum, he said.

The Clinton files were sent to Mr. Clinton's personal lawyer in Washington, David Kendall, while the Foster files were sent to the Foster family lawyer, Mr. Gearan said.

The new flap over Mr. Clinton's alleged sexual impropriety recalled his stormy quest for the presidency, during which a woman, Gennifer Flowers, maintained that she had had a 12-year relationship with Mr. Clinton. Appearing on national television, he denied having had the affair, but acknowledged that his marriage had his some rocky passages.

The fresh allegations, which appeared first in a conservative magazine, American Spectator, and were broadcast by CNN, surfaced as Mr. Clinton's popularity rating climbed. A Washington Post-ABC poll found that 58 percent of the electorate approved of his handling of the presidency.

"My husband's presidency speaks for itself, and what he has done in just one year for America," Mrs. Clinton said in the interview.

How Infidelity Story Won Press Attention

Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The Arkansas lawyer who has pushed allegations of extramarital encounters by Bill Clinton says he tried to get an article published in the "liberal" Los Angeles Times to "balance" a planned article in the American Spectator, a conservative monthly.

The Times declined to publish the story last weekend but the attorney, Cliff Jackson, still managed to get the allegations into the mainstream news media. His clients, two Arkansas state police officers, claim that they had arranged for sexual liaisons for Mr. Clinton when he was governor of Arkansas.

Mr. Jackson, a college friend of President Clinton's who now is one of his most bitter political enemies, provided the allegations to Cable News Network, whose Sunday night broadcast was picked up by The Associated Press. The AP dispatch, in turn, was published by several newspapers Monday, including The Washington Post.

The way in which Mr. Jackson and his clients worked the news media reflects a clear understanding that troopers' credibility would be shaped by how their allegations became public.

A White House official said there had been "a calculated effort on the part of critics of the president to inject this into the media, and they used the American Spectator as an avenue in."

David Brock, author of the 11,000-word American Spectator article, said the state troopers approached him in August to discuss his writing a book about their allegations. Mr. Brock wrote "The Real Anita Hill," which has drawn both praise and denunciations for its contention that Ms. Hill fabricated her sexual harassment allegations during Clarence Thomas's confirmation hearings for a seat on the Supreme Court.

W. Edwards Deming, Management Expert, Dies at 93

By John Holusha

NEW YORK — W. Edwards Deming, 93, an expert on quality in manufacturing who helped Japan rebuild its shattered industries after World War II, died of cancer Monday in Washington.

Mr. Deming long urged U.S. corporations to treat their workers as associates rather than adversaries. His theories were based on the premise that most product defects resulted from management shortcomings, rather than careless workers and that inspection after the fact was inferior to designing for better quality.

Mr. Deming was an obscure statistician in the United States in 1950 when he was asked by some Japanese industrial leaders, based on his research in World War II, to deliver a series of lectures on his quality-control principles.

He and his message were eagerly embraced by the Japanese, who believed that, without many natural resources or a colonial empire, they would prosper only if they sold products on world markets.

His success in Japan made him the leader of a generation of specialists on product durability and reliability who were then sought by American companies trying to catch up to Asians. But his renown in the United States never matched the success he achieved in Japan.

The Japanese created a Deming Prize for companies that made striking advances in quality. He was born in Sioux City, Iowa, and grew up in Powell, Wyoming, where his father worked as a part-time lawyer and land developer.

Away From Politics

Four months after the Marine Corps tried to ban married recruits, the Defense Department has buried the plan. A "comprehensive study" has found "no statistical link between marital status and readiness," Defense Secretary Les Aspin said in a statement. But the study found serious problems in housing and "social and support programs" for married troops, some of which would be very expensive to correct.

The youth who shielded two girls from gunfire was killed by his half brother, the Los Angeles County police said. Eric Gunn, 21, was booked for investigation of murder in the death of Rayshawn Love, 17, and crack cocaine possession. The police said they believed the gunman fired erratically at the crowded party in Lancaster, California, because someone had spilled beer on his shoes.

The captain of the Golden Venture, the freighter that ran aground off New York in June with nearly 300 illegal Chinese immigrants, has agreed to plead guilty and to cooperate with U.S. authorities investigating the trip, his lawyer said. In return for leniency, Amir Humantal Lumbani Tobing was prepared to testify against eight Chinese men facing trial on charges of having acted as enforcers on the ship for the principals who had arranged the trip.

The news media have been giving excessive coverage to the allegations that Michael Jackson sexually molested a 13-year-old boy, leaders of the Western Regional NAACP say. In announcing a study to assess the media's coverage of blacks, Shannon Reeves, West Coast director of the NAACP, said: "We're not going to stand by any longer and allow this to happen."

That hammer was wielded by CNN. Mr. Jackson made the two officers available to CNN for interviews, and Mr. Brock was also interviewed. "The fact the troopers were willing to go on camera was what made us decide to do a story," said Ed Turner, CNN's vice president for news. Media reaction varied widely. The New York Times and The Wall Street Journal published nothing, while there were banner headlines in the New York Post ("BILL'S NEW SENGATE") and New York Daily News ("BILL'S CUPID TROOPERS").

SECRET CODES CALLING ONE FOREIGN COUNTRY FROM ANOTHER IS NO SECRET WITH THESE SIMPLE ACCESS CODES

Herald Tribune

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

A Safety Net for Russians

When Vice President Al Gore was in Moscow last week, he suggested that perhaps some of the conditions for foreign loans to Russia need to be loosened. That is a change in at least the tone of American policy, and it apparently took some of Washington by surprise. But having seen some of the effects of the economic decline — and having read the results of the Russian elections — Mr. Gore thinks that the United States needs to try harder to find useful ways to respond.

That is admirable. Russians ought never to be left under any shadow of doubt about American responsiveness and goodwill. But conditions on aid are necessary as well. Otherwise the loans enable an embattled government to put off difficult decisions.

A second point that Mr. Gore and everyone else needs to keep firmly in mind: The worst social misery is not being caused by reform, but by the lack of it. The old Soviet economy is collapsing, irrevocably. What is called reform is the way out of the wreckage into something more hopeful. Social conditions are much better in Russia than in, say, Ukraine. The reason is that Russia has made a substantial beginning on the process of reform, while Ukraine has done little and is suffering for it. To the extent that foreign loans are conditioned on further reform, they become a visible incentive to keep going.

Mr. Gore said specifically that the two great lending institutions, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, ought to consider loosening their requirements a bit. In fact, they have recently done some loosening. But there is a need for a real social safety net in Russia — the structure of public benefits that the West takes for granted. Whether social benefits should be financed with borrowed money is questionable. Perhaps the United States and the other rich democracies have an obligation to come up with larger grants rather than more loans.

Mr. Gore's comments and all the debate on this crucial subject are pointed toward the meeting in Moscow between the two presidents, Bill Clinton and Boris Yeltsin, in mid-January. Within the Russian government, most of the decisions on reform were put on hold pending the elections. At the Moscow summit meeting, Mr. Clinton will ask whether the Russians are prepared to continue toward a market economy. If the answer is "yes," the West needs to be ready with more support for that progress. That does not mean dropping the conditions on aid. Instead it means ensuring that there is enough aid of the right kinds to see Russia's people through the next several years as they struggle to unlock their own country's great potential wealth.

— THE WASHINGTON POST.

Let's Cool Down the Korean Hot Air Crisis

By Flora Lewis

SEOUL — There is a large dose of dark fantasy in accounts of an impending Korean crisis, not at all in the holiday spirit. It is dangerous, because it can provoke much worse trouble than currently exists.

First, the facts, from senior South Korean and American officials directly involved.

There has been no change of any significance in North Korea's military deployment in well over a year — in fact, for several years. There is no evidence at all for reports of a new buildup and increased readiness for an attack on the South.

Washington accounts suggesting that South Korea would rapidly be overrun without previous improvements in the ability of the 35,000-member American force to receive reinforcements are based on an outdated contingency plan called 50-25. After a two-year review, a new plan has been adopted and it is a good deal less alarmist.

Secondly, there is no sign that North Korea has continued its efforts to build a nuclear weapon for at least the last several months. Intelligence indicates that it has suspended, although not discontinued, this operation. Therefore it is reasonable to suppose that time spent in trying to advance negotiations for proper inspection has

been time lost in heading off a fait accompli. Asked just how big is the fire behind all the ominous recent diplomatic smoke, South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung Joo told me, "It's not even smoke, it's steam."

Then how to account for all the menacing hot air? That is more speculative, but it does reflect known internal political disputes within the South Korean military establishment, supported by differing factions in Washington.

For one thing, there are people within the military both here and in the United States who strongly oppose cancellation of the huge annual "Team Spirit" joint U.S.-South Korean exercise. Cancellation, demanded by North Korea, is one of the concessions that the United States has offered in return for agreement on the nuclear issue and serious North-South negotiations.

The concession was offered on the judgment that the exercise is no longer really necessary, and may be unduly provocative. Opponents of this decision apparently wish to create a public impression that the exercise remains urgently necessary.

Outgoing Secretary of Defense Les Aspin contributed to the flap with remarks he made on a no-attribution basis during a recent, badly run trip to South Korea. He later tried to back away from the impression he gave of grave imminent threat with a statement he made on the record contradicting his first comments without acknowledging them, which therefore did not effectively serve the purpose.

Nobody can explain why he made the headline-grabbing warning in the first place. Perhaps it was unwitting. Very likely it was a factor in his eagerly received resignation.

In the circumstances, you would expect a clear public move to calm the jitters and jingoism that have been aroused. The failure to do that can be more easily explained. It is the old dilemma of two audiences.

Reversing gears would certainly be the right thing to do for the big audience, but officials worry that it would signal to North Korea's Kim Il Sung that the West has given up on the

nuclear issue, and that he can proceed complacently with his programs. Governments don't want to mislead or comfort him.

But this overlooks the political risk accumulating for a Clinton administration that has already been accused of a lack of resolve in foreign affairs, of caving in on Somalia, Bosnia, Haiti. Conservatives are starting to demand action against North Korea, arguing that America is losing credibility with allies by "waffling."

South Korea policy has undergone a dramatic change, however, and Seoul really does not want to heat up the atmosphere. Neither, though, does it want to encourage North Korea, because the underlying, residual threat is still there, nor to demobilize its own people. Therefore it has not explained openly that the new policy is to go slowly, to try to make it possible for eventual reunification to come in long, gradual steps rather than a sudden upheaval, to seek to narrow the enormous economic and social gaps between the two parts of the country as much as possible before overwhelming political change.

Japan agrees, but does not say so very loudly for the same reasons and so as not to show an important divergence from U.S. assumptions.

The most important reason for the change is the painful experience of Germany. The chasm between North and South is enormously greater than it was between East and West Germany, and sudden unity would present similar problems but on a much greater scale.

The biggest Southern fear is invasion not by troops but by millions of refugees, and the most important planning is on how to persuade them to stay home if Northerners were free to move.

Seoul has sent a special team to its embassy in Bonn to study Germany's problems, its mistakes and advice. It has already concluded that its interest lies in evolutionary North Korean development. The puzzle is how to do that without helping to strengthen and perpetuate the Stalinist Pyongyang regime. Not easy, but the answer is certainly not to revive Cold War nerves.

This is a case where colder would be better, because there are threats of reprisals. There is no hurry. There is time for diplomacy.

Flora Lewis

For Russia, Put the First Thing First

By A. M. Rosenthal

NEW YORK — Sometimes soon after the anti-Communist revolution in the former Soviet Union, the national life. The phrases "free market economy" and "democracy" became chained together, an inseparable formula. Without one, the other could not exist. In combination they were seen as the only answer to the future of Eastern Europe and Russia.

The mantra met the beliefs of many economists and politicians in the West and the dreams of reformers in the new Russia.

I understood the belief and dream. I had reported from Poland in the cold days of Communism. The system digested me. Only a fool, ideologue or apparition would not understand that it was totally corrupt, totally brutal, totally inefficient.

And no democracy, however imperfect, came near communism for distribution of poverty, or stultification. Whenever I left Poland to visit a free city, the mere sight of a stall with fruit or a kiosk with choice made my mouth water and brain tingle.

But democracy without a fully free market is not reasonable. Russia may never tomorrow. Three problems will logically slow its arrival. If the West and Russian reformers do not face them, the result may be neither a free market nor a democracy but one more all-controlling, despotic — fascist or Communist.

First: The formula does not always work. Dictatorships by the seventh have used some form of market economy to strengthen themselves; the Nazis in Germany, the Communists in China; Saddam Hussein in Iraq, the Taliban in Iran.

And time and again democracies like India have crept ahead while neighbors like China kept forward. No mystery: dictatorships can act without the consent of the people. That is a laborious, quarrelsome business. Its only value is that it means the difference between breathing freedom and breathing slavery.

The second problem is that Russians, with no experience in democratic economics, are asked to create a fully free market, quick, snappy, while established democracies still move toward it with enormous caution.

In Japan, business, government and politicians work together in a largely closed system. In Western Europe, public television and telecommunications still are in government hands. In the United States, administrations are elected and survive by lulling out advantage to selected parts of the society.

Free markets usually mean unemployment for some, to create prosperity for more. Westerners protect themselves with nets of unemployment insurance and social security as they inch toward the risks. For Russians — no inching, no nets, just the plunge.

The third problem could be the most dangerous. Too many Russian workers feel that the new economic system is being shoved down their throats. Economic hard times become a personal and national humiliation. They are not ready to let go of Russian fascism get a quarter of the party votes, and a variety of Communist take another large chunk.

Russians created Russia and Russians will have to solve its problems. But the West can help. One way is to draw closer to Russian reformers and other democrats — not just Boris Yeltsin but all the others who will have to think things through.

Full speed toward the free market would be fine — if it could be maintained at acceptable social prices. But so far it has meant murderous inflation and more unemployment, without the increased production it is supposed to bring.

For the sake of the civil peace that democracy needs to grow, President Yeltsin may need to listen to reformers who argue for a slower pace — keeping some subsidies, some controls and some tariffs to buoy struggling industries. Name a Western nation that is not doing that right now.

If the pace has to slow, the West should not denounce or isolate Russia in the name of economic theory. If Russian workers want a little more job security to butter their freedom, and about that economic theory alone can be too dry to swallow, are they different from Western workers?

We in the West are asking the democrats of Russia to hang together against fascism and communism. So it would be cruel and self-defeating for the West to choose this moment of crisis to withhold our constancy from those democrats. The revolution against communism was fought for freedom, not for an economic textbook.

The New York Times

Mideast Negotiation Jitters

More Palestinian stones in Gaza. More Israeli shootings in response. Another round of talks without consummating September's agreement on Israeli withdrawal from Gaza, Jericho and Palestinian autonomy. These daily events make the news and nourish despair. But they do not define the larger reality of a region struggling to break out of a deadly ethnic conflict and join the modern world. They do not indicate the mutual readiness for change that exists at the leadership level and in public opinion, too.

The immediate issues seem like fine print. Who is to control border checkpoints? What are to be the borders of "Jericho"? Are Israelis to have the road rights to ensure security for Jewish settlers? The Palestinians answer these questions in a way that amplifies their claim to early and full sovereignty. Correctly, the Israelis say the Sept. 13 accord promises no such thing; they insist that Palestinian rights are contained by the language of the agreement.

Their friends must tell the Palestinians that to insist on such a broad reading of the agreement is to ensure its collapse at both ends — as Israel's already shaky confidence in negotiation is shattered, and as unrealistic Palestinian expectations are dashed. Their friends must tell the Israelis that to ignore the popular

Palestinian currents running against the compromises made by the PLO leadership on Sept. 13 is perhaps to win a small battle but surely to lose the larger struggle.

In this moment of first-time negotiation jitters, each side is entrenched in its view of what must come first: for the Israelis personal security, for the Palestinians the appearance of statehood. Finding the trade-offs is stretching both sides to their political limits.

Over the weekend the Israelis arrested six Jews on charges of plotting terrorism against Arabs. This single sweep does not shut down the terrorist potential of West Bank Jewish settlers, but it offers a timely example of the self-discipline that is now the key component of confidence-building on both sides.

Israelis harbor understandable doubts about the capacity of the PLO, once it starts policing Israeli-occupied land under an autonomy regime, to enforce the law on Palestinian terrorists. But nothing Israel could do at this point would serve it better than to begin withdrawal: to show Palestinians the specific fruits of accommodation and to put Palestinian self-policing to the test. Withdrawal can begin as the PLO makes its share of reasonable adjustments on the issues on the table.

— THE WASHINGTON POST.



A young child in a war-torn area.

Algeria in Crisis: The 'Afghanis' Stir Things Up

By John K. Cooley

NICOSIA — In their campaign to drive foreigners and their works out of Algeria, militant Islamists have sounded an old and dangerous sectarian note. What was new, different and especially sinister about the recent murder of 12 Christian Croatians and Bosnian workers at a construction site was the language used by their Algerian killers.

"This is how we deal with the new Crusaders in our land... and we will do it again," said a message sent by the Armed Islamic Group, the self-avowed perpetrators. Thus the specter of Muslim-Christian strife is added to the xenophobia and "ethnic cleansing" rampant in both Algeria and the former Yugoslavia.

Many of Algeria's foreign residents have taken their governments' advice to leave. Frenchmen, Spaniards, Russians, Italians, a Briton and others have been killed since the guerrillas' ultimatum for foreigners to leave expired on Dec. 1. Families of embassy personnel and staffers of multinational companies are leaving.

In both the Bosnian and the Algerian cases, the glowing coils of sectarian ill will are being fanned into flame by the now all too familiar figures of what could be called the Afghan International. These are the Arab and other Muslim veterans of the 1980-1990 jihad, or holy war, trained under the management of the CIA in the arts of guerrilla warfare, terrorism and sabotage to fight the Soviets in Afghanistan.

Algerian "Afghanis," as they are known locally, have led many of the deadliest attacks against the military-backed government that took power in January 1992 and annulled elections that looked likely to bring the Islamic Salvation Front to power.

Bosnian Muslims also have many "Afghanis" fighting with them. Like some of the Algerian Islamists, some identify their enemies primarily as Christians. Early this month the vice president of Bosnia's Muslim-led government, Ejup Ganic, visited Algeria and met senior government officials. In recent months, one of the most charismatic of the Algerian Afghan

veterans, Kamar Eddin Kharbat, a member of the Islamic Salvation Front's exiled executive committee, has traveled to Bosnia several times.

Mr. Kharbat's career shows what lies in store for Algeria and other countries whose young men were trained by the CIA, defeated the Russians in Afghanistan and returned to lead the destabilization of their own states and societies. He left the Algerian army in 1983 for Peshawar, Pakistan. Under the auspices of the CIA and its Pakistani equivalent, he soon became a leader of the mujahidin fighting the Russians and Afghan Communists.

Shortly after the death in Algeria in 1987 of another Afghan-trained Islamist leader, Mustapha Bouali, Mr. Kharbat returned to Algeria to preach in a suburban mosque. From that base he formed clandestine guerrilla cells modeled on Afghan lines. One of his later assignments, the Algerian government and Western intelligence sources believe, was to do similar organizational work in Bosnia.

According to a senior Serbian official, Afghan war veterans of various nationalities — Algerian, Palestinian, Egyptian, Kashmiri and others — have become the most formidable opponents of the Serbs — and "the Christians," as this official put it.

In Algeria, exiled political leaders of the now banned Islamic Salvation Front, such as Rabah Kebir, who lives in Germany, have taken their distance from the sectarian killings of foreigners. Mr. Kebir told a news conference in Bonn last Friday that murders such as those of the 12 construction workers were "not beneficial to Algeria."

At the same time, however, he warned that "if a foreigner is on the side of our people's oppressors, he is not welcome." This was a warning against military, paramilitary or police assistance to the Algerian government by the United States, France or others.

Algeria's governing State Council includes Prime Minister Redha Malek, a veteran of the 1954-1962 independence war with France, who is respected for tireless work to secure the release of the U.S. diplomats held hostage by Iran in 1979. Other council members are hard-line generals. It was to have dissolved itself at the end of this month, but has extended its mandate by a month. Some members seem interested in finding negotiating partners among moderates in the Islamic Salvation Front.

On Friday, Mr. Kebir set five conditions for such talks, including the release of all "political prisoners" in Algeria, who human rights groups say number 15,000. The front also wants lifted all laws and regulations passed after the January 1992 military takeover. To replace the State Council, it advocates the creation of a body that would incorporate all political forces.

The front calls for the trial of those "responsible for barbarous acts."

Lastly, it insists that talks between the front and the Algerian leadership take place in a neutral country.

According to Remy Leveau, a French specialist on Islam, the Algerian leadership cannot avoid talking with the front if the Algerian state and its society are to be saved. In a recent interview with a French newspaper, Mr. Leveau expressed his belief that, just as the Palestine Liberation Organization has denounced Palestinians who kill Jews in Israel and the occupied territories, so would moderate elements in the front cooperate with Algeria's military and Prime Minister Malek if given a chance.

France, the United States and Algeria's other friends and trading partners ought to encourage talks. The only other choice is an escalation of warfare, terrorism and the kind of Muslim-Christian religious fanaticism fanned by the Crusades but rarely seen since then.

The writer is an ABC News correspondent specializing in the Middle East. He contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

For Better Public Schools

Walter Annenberg, who donated \$365 million in June to three universities and a New Jersey prep school, has now targeted his wealth at the lower rungs of the education ladder. His latest donation, a staggering \$500 million, is aimed at improving elementary and secondary education, where America is acknowledged to be much weaker than in higher education.

Mr. Annenberg says he wants to help stem the growing tide of violence in schools. His gift will be doled out over five years in challenge grants to educators who are developing innovative programs which, they hope, can be replicated across America and thus reshape the way children are taught.

For starters, \$50 million will go to the Coalition of Essential Schools, based at

Brown University. The coalition, founded by the education reformer TheodoreSizer, emphasizes individualized teaching and more parental involvement. Another \$50 million will go to the New American Schools Development Corporation, a privately financed group that was first proposed by the Bush administration to finance innovative reforms.

Mr. Annenberg has now become public education's biggest and best known private donor. Applauding his gesture, President Bill Clinton noted that there were many good school programs around the nation that had not been successfully duplicated. Mr. Annenberg has made it possible for many more of these flowers to be transplanted and bloom.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES.

There May Still Be Time for Talking

By Katherine Roth

PARIS — Eight months ago, a friend arrived sobbing at my door in Algeria. He told me the government was forcing him to strip away the symbol of his faith. From now on, even the most devout Muslims would have to shave off their beards or risk brutal abuse from the police. Beards, I thought. Were they really this important?

When I had arrived in glittering white Algiers, a capital city superbly framed in green and flowered hillsides against an immense blue sky, I could not have imagined what the beauty would come to hide. Only three years before, Algeria had seemed to be a bright star of liberalism in the Arab world.

In April, a few days after the encounter at my door, I watched police corralling men with beards and trucking them off to the station, where their simple cotton Muslim gowns were torn and their beards roughly shaved away.

That day, a cousin of my friend came home badly bruised, his face bleeding. He said the police had forced him to shave off his beard with a piece of plastic and had laughed as he scraped away. He was a grocer, not politically involved.

Not involved, that is, except as a practicing Muslim and sympathizer with a party — the Islamic Salvation Front — that was winning parliamentary elections when the government annulled them in January 1992. The front had campaigned to replace a regime that continues to be widely despised as corrupt, incompetent and Western-inspired.

Despite its status as an OPEC member, the quality of life in Algeria is often worse than that in Egypt. Shortages of coffee, bread and sugar are frequent. Prices have risen sharply in the past year but salaries are frozen. Unemployment is estimated at 25 percent.

I set out to try to understand the Islamist trend. I watched hope become tension, tension turn to anger and anger burst out in violence.

The sound of gunshots in the night has now become routine, along with the curfew: being out after 11:30 P.M. can mean death. In fact, the streets of Algiers are empty after 8 P.M. — which is most unusual for a Mediterranean city. Restaurants are virtually empty at night.

In Germany recently, I interviewed the leader in exile of the Islamic Sal-

vation Front, Rabah Kebir. His version of the general picture matched the line I had heard among ordinary Islamists in Algeria: "The Islamic movement is a revival of a society's concentration on its origins in hope of inspiring change. It started at the time Arab nations were colonized. In Egypt there was the Muslim Brotherhood, and in Algeria there was the Association of Ulama. At the time, these organizations were most concerned with working for Arab independence. They succeeded in that goal... We are taking up that original movement once again."

But anger is mounting in the gritty streets of Algiers. Radical new militias are now formed, over which the Salvation Front appears to have little if any control. An Armed Islamic Group has claimed responsibility for most of the recent killings of foreigners.

Thousands of foreigners have fled in recent weeks — including this writer. Western countries' cultural centers have closed. Foreign newspapers have been unavailable for many months, and the local press is censored.

The opposition became violent after the 1991-92 elections were annulled and the party was outlawed. The country has now become a powder keg with a fuse burning shorter every minute.

When a nonviolent party won the first round of voting by a landslide in the country's first free elections, Western governments stood by in silence as the regime annulled the vote, banned the party and began the jailing of at least 7,000 of the party's members and sympathizers. Amnesty International has confirmed that the people in Algeria say that torture is systematic in the crowded prison camps.

Western diplomats estimate that at least 35 people a day are being killed by one side or the other.

On Friday, Mr. Kebir called a press conference in Bonn to announce tough conditions for any dialogue with the authorities. He also addressed outsiders: "How can anyone understand a world community that looks away when people are tortured?"

North African Islamists are Sunni, not Shiite like the Iranians. Mr. Kebir is not the only Salvation Front leader to assert that an Islamic Algeria would "not be another Iran."

How oppressive the Islamists would be if they came to power is impossible to say. In any case, they exist, and the army and police of Algeria are losing control. Westerners should be talking with Algerian Islamists, it seems to me.

The writer, an American journalist studying the Islamists as a fellow of the Institute of Current World Affairs, has spent eight months in Algeria. She contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

There may still be time for talking. The Islamic movement is a revival of a society's concentration on its origins in hope of inspiring change. It started at the time Arab nations were colonized. In Egypt there was the Muslim Brotherhood, and in Algeria there was the Association of Ulama. At the time, these organizations were most concerned with working for Arab independence. They succeeded in that goal... We are taking up that original movement once again."

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Other Comment

A Serbian Vote for More War

Not as strong as some people had feared but strong enough to rule Serbia: That is President Slobodan Milosevic after the Serbian parliamentary elections on Sunday. In the halfway-free elections, a politician who is leading his people into war and into economic (and also social) catastrophe got a relative majority for his party, the Serbian Socialist, who were formed out of the former Communist Party. The success was only possible because Mr. Milosevic has smashed and fragmented all the opponents of his Greater Serbian policy. The collective intoxication of Greater Serbia has now also affected his domestic opponents.

One could even speak of a brilliant chess move: The ultrachauvinist, and to some extent criminal, soul mates of the winner of the elections — such as Vojislav Seselj, the head of the Serbian Radical Party, and Zeljko (Arkan) Razajicovic, a member of parliament who is sought for bank robbery and murder — have lost. Mr. Milosevic can now tell the West: "Look, I am not like them."

What is worrying is that the entire leadership of Serbia is now determined to retain invaded territories. Not even the opposition parties speak out against the Serbian war. The displaced Muslims and Croats in Bosnia will not be able to return to their homes villages.

— Die Welt (Bonn).

East Europe Is Looking West

Views are divided in the West over what policy to adopt toward the countries of the former Soviet sphere of influence in Eastern Europe. Some have called for a policy of including Russia in the new Europe (ignoring the misgivings of Russia's neighbors), others see no reason to shore up Russian power now, after having spent two generations trying to undermine it. The general consensus in the countries most directly concerned is that they want very much to become a Western sphere of influence. To some, that may smack of colonialism and carving up the map; others call it the "right of peoples to self-determination." The peoples themselves see it as their surest way to joining the West and of not being reabsorbed into Moscow's empire.

— Neue Zürcher Zeitung (Zurich).

And Then No Muslim Threat

The following excerpt is from "The Last Thrust Southward," an autobiography by Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the Russian nationalist whose party made a strong showing in the Dec. 12 parliamentary elections.

WHEN some parties preach that we should cut off Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Central Asia, they don't understand that we are creating Russia in a tundra where there can be no life and habitation — just natural resources. Civilization has always started from the south. But since there were too many people in the south they gradually advanced toward the north. People never realized that they were abandoning the better places. Thus my idea of the last thrust.

It should be done like shock therapy, unexpectedly, quickly and efficiently. We'll acquire the four-axis platform: Relying on the Arctic Ocean in the north; the Pacific Ocean in the east; the Atlantic Ocean through the Black, Mediterranean and Baltic seas; and finally in the south, on the Indian Ocean, we shall get quiet neighbors.

Such are the historical realities: a merger of different nations as a result of the economy, the dominance of the Russian language, the Russian ruble, the dominant place of the Russian army as the most combat-capable. Stability in the entire region... America will rest in peace because it will mean an end to wars in this region of the world — no red threat, no Muslim or Turk threats, no Islamic threat.

It has always been a dream of mine — to loose the Russian soldiers wash their army boots in the warm water of the Indian Ocean and change into summer uniforms forever... We will build sanatoriums, spas, youth camps on the vast expanses of the south for the people from the industrial north to take a rest there. Let the Muslims stick to their customs and traditions in places where they live in large numbers. Let the bigamy be preserved, and women wear their chadors...

All these things will become possible if we make this thrust to the south. We need it badly. It is the medicine that everyone has to take. But the medicine may be bitter for some people, maybe someone in Tehran or Kabul or Ankara would not like it.

The Washington Post.

The writer is an ABC News correspondent specializing in the Middle East. He contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1893: Hudson Bridge

NEW YORK — Both Houses have passed the Hudson River Bridge Bill. It now only needs the President's signature to become a law. This formality will be accomplished in a few days and then the construction will be begun of the structure which is to connect New York and Jersey City. The bridge company's officials say that they have their plans all ready and the money on hand necessary to begin work at once. Construction of the piers will be delayed until the winter is over, but there is nothing to hinder immediate operations on shore.

1918: Welcome Home

NEW YORK — The United States War Camp Community Service announces that the following wireless message will be sent during the next three days to all homecoming warships: "New York City welcomes the homecoming officers and men with a Merry Christmas and a Happy New

1943: Battles in Russia

LONDON — [From our New York edition:] Russia's Baltic Army, storming toward the Vitebsk-Polotsk rail line, has captured more than a hundred populated places, killed 1,000 Germans and reached to within twenty miles of the German defense bastion of Vitebsk, Moscow announced today (Dec. 22). At the same time, the Russians announced the liquidation of a German bridgehead on the left bank of the Dnieper across from Kherson. More than 2,000 Germans were killed there in a three-day battle that wrecked twenty-one of their tanks and seventy-eight artillery pieces, and cost them in addition great stores of war material and numerous prisoners.

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سنة من الأمل

OPINION

A True Picture of Crime Would Be More Helpful

By Richard Harwood

WASHINGTON—A national poll taken about a month ago by The Washington Post and ABC News tells us that 21 percent of the inhabitants of the United States believe that crime is the "biggest issue facing the country." That is news because polls of this kind ordinarily find that people are most concerned about the economy or, in the old days, the threat of war.



Like Lots of Us, the Woman Hadn't Been to Montreuil

By Brian Knowlton

PARIS—It begins when you board the Métro, especially late at night. You feel the weight, like a hand held to your lips, another pressing you down. It is not paradise. You edge away from the foul-smelling mutters, the twitchers, the shifty ones; you study your knees.

MEANWHILE

stories in this city, more on shopping days. And what a group. Set off tear gas in a crowded Métro, and people would curse you in 20 languages.

more than three centuries. They correlate more closely with cultural regions of origin than with urbanization, poverty or any material factor.

From the beginning of colonization until today, homicide rates have been extremely low along the northern border from New England to the Pacific Northwest. In the South the reverse is true. It has always been a killing field.

Crime enters the political arena and inspires legislative remedies that may prove to be as useless as much of the legislation of the past quarter-century.

People and Government

Regarding the opinion column "The 10 Values That Undergird East Asian Strength and Success" (Dec. 11): I have no quarrel with some of the values identified by Tommy Koh as the ones primarily responsible for the strength and success of East Asia.

should not be individualistic but must "keep in mind the interests of others," or that he should "practice national teamwork," or that "the press must act responsibly" — the very same values that Ferdinand Marcos used to stress during the Philippines' unforgettable years of martial rule and "corrupt dictatorship."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

mutual human enterprise, East and West alike. Cultural differences we may have, but these have no more to do with the arguments of the politicians who are whipping up such a fever about them than whether my great aunt wears a wig to church or not.

Brain Implant, Anyone?

Regarding "Doctors' Panel Urges Access to Implants" (Health Science, Dec. 2): Since it is not known exactly how much silicone leaks into women's bodies from implants, let us play dumb and pretend we don't know that any leakage of a noxious substance might be harmful. That way this money-making procedure can continue...

Go Straight to the Market

In response to "On With the Work of Democracy in Russia" (Opinion, Dec. 18): President Boris Yeltsin should have created a holding company owning all public enterprises; given each citizen one share (no vouchers, please) in it, and let them trade these shares freely. Since all workers would have kept their jobs, for a while at least, and received one share in the commonwealth, this scheme would have been easy to sell politically.

Complications and Infections Come from Satisfied Patients?

LINDA CLEMENT, Marly-le-Roi, France. Tracy Danison, Suresnes, France.

Who Was He? A Harmless Old Kook?

All sides, and as I tried to keep them straight I looked up just in time to realize I had reached my stop.

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A Cult Opera That Succeeds At the Bastille

By David Stevens
International Herald Tribune

ARIS—The Paris Opéra. Such should be trying to construct a repertoire of durable values instead of being in floating tithings, is a strange case that in no Verdi whatsoever, but has just introduced its first production of Francesco Cilea's "Adriana Lecouvreur."

It seems unbalanced, or even mad, it is not that Cilea's one opera does not have its own special brand of vocal emotion, but it is a specialty. At the Bastille it is Mirella Freni in the title role and Alexandrina Milcheva as her mezzo nemesis who apply the essential conflict.

The story is a real one, or as close to historically authentic as opera gets. Adrienne Lecouvreur was an actress at the Comédie Française in the early 1700s, and a lover of Maurice de Saxe, the famous French marshal. She died mysteriously in 1730, aged 38, rumored to have been poisoned by a rival in love, the Duchesse de Bouillon (promoted to vicewoman in the opera), whom the actress is said to have insulted in the theater with a rather too point-

ed delivery of a speech from Racine's "Phèdre." From these bare bones Scribe and Legouvé concocted a drama whose title role proved irresistible to Rachel, Bernhardt and Duse, among others, and provided the composer with his book.

Cilea's operatic output was modest—six works in all, only four produced professionally, and when he died in 1950 at 84, he had written nothing for the stage in 40 years. But he was a composer of charm and craftsmanship, generally pegged as a soft-edged exemplar of the verismo school. He had a knack for finding attractive melodies, and a reluctance to let go of them. For a conductor willing to bring it out, the orchestral score is an effective mosaic, evoking the flavor of backstage theater and aristocratic salons. To compensate for a score of little dramatic propulsion, he offers roles—mainly for the two women rivals—rich in possibilities for dramatic power, not to say excess.

Freni and Milcheva are well matched in their strong confrontations, going right to the emoting edge while resisting the temptation to go over the top, or perhaps being restrained by the nicely balanced staging of Jean-Luc Boutté, veteran actor and director of the Comédie Française. They rightly collected the major share of the prolonged ovations after the final curtain.

For Freni, the role is vocally grateful at this stage in her career. It is almost 40 years since she began as a light lyric soprano—a Micaëla, Zerlina and Nanetta—yet she has survived heavy duty Verdi assignments like Aida effortlessly intact. She sang her two famous arias with appealing lyricism. In Act 1 with simple charm, and the final curtain death scene, "Poveri



Mirella Freni and Peter Dvorsky in Francesco Cilea's "Adriana Lecouvreur."

flori," with a restraint that took the curse off the silly plot—she supposedly is killed by poisoned flowers sent by her lover.

Peter Dvorsky is a solid, strong-voiced lyric tenor, but he was still rather than dashing as the future Marshal de Saxe, and furthermore was encumbered with an inelegant costume. Jean-Luc Chaignaud was a moving if somewhat too youthful Michonnet, the theater director

vainly in love with Adriana. François Vonnasin as the Prince de Bouillon and Ricardo Cassinelli as the disagreeable Abbé de Chazet provided solid support. Maurizio Benini conducted with energy and solicitude for his singers.

Louis Bercot's set was simple and open, a parquetry platform with partial boiserie walls to mark the interiors, and trees to give an indoor-outdoor effect in a couple

of scenes. His opulent costumes provided the period effect.

Caroline Marcadé's Act 3 ballet, a jolky parody of the myth of Paris and Aphrodite, only succeeded in irritating the public. It probably was a lost cause when the golden apple was fumbled early on and rolled into the orchestra pit.

"Adriana Lecouvreur," Opéra Bastille, Dec. 22, 27, 30, Jan. 3, 6, 10, 13 and 15.

Rock Nostalgia at CBGB

By John Rockwell
New York Times Service

NEW YORK—Scenes blossom and wither, stride forward and then stumble, and you never know for sure how real they are—great music objectively reported—or how much they are the product of some members' subjective enthusiasms.

CBGB, which is celebrating its 20th anniversary this month, was a true scene in the mid-1970s, with all the sweaty interaction that that long and narrow club compelled.

Just going to the bathroom, down long and dingy stairs behind the stage to the left, was an invitation to encounter every sort of downtown denizen and substance consumption known to man (and woman) at the time.

Musicians mingled with groggers and fans and one another; writers schmoozed with each other and with musicians; fights broke out and friendships formed.

Rock 'n' roll nostalgia can seem lame to younger folk, caught up in their own bands and scenes and testily impatient when some older starts reminiscing about the good old days.

One reason to celebrate CBGB (or, as we all used to call it for no good reason, CBGB's) is that its founder and owner, Hilly Kristal, has never allowed it to fall into a nostalgic rut.

He has always kept the doors of this seedy, sometimes sad but always welcoming dive at the corner of the Bowery and Bleecker Street open to new bands. And while some of his side ventures (a theater, a record store) have gone off the rails, and not every band was great, the sense of youthful vitality has been pretty constant.

But the time that I was a regular visitor to CBGB (the initials, improbably, stand for "country, bluesgrass

and blues") was near its beginnings, from 1975 through 1977, when its first great scene was flourishing and when I, then the chief rock critic of The New York Times, was there to write about it.

If all scenes have a whiff of subjectivity, a subtle sense that they are the artificial product of communal hype, at the time we all felt that this one was real. And we have the records and CD remasterings to prove it.

I still think a lot of mainstream 1970s pop-rock was not as dreadful as pop-crit can would now have us believe.

But downtown New York rockers of the mid-70s, the spiritual grandchildren of the Velvet Underground and children of the New York Dolls, were convinced that they were fighting the good fight against commercial musical drift.

And in fighting that fight, they gave birth to English punk and all the forms of American alternative rock that thrive up to the present.

From the late 1970s on, there was punk and hardcore and all the varieties of alternative rock that now flourish. Although it had really ended three or four years before, for me the mid-70s scene came to a close in 1982, at the memorial service/wake/rave-up for the writer and musician Lester Bangs, who had died in May of that year.

It was like a premature college reunion of everyone—musicians, writers, hangers-on, actual people—who had made the original scene what it was.

There was music that night, but what I remember was community. Whether Lester, crusty and cranky and immune to nostalgic wallowing, would have appreciated the emotion, I cannot say.

But for a lot of us, that night was a validation of a time and a place that transcended mere nostalgia and elevated CBGB into rock 'n' roll history.

Twenty years later, there are reasons to celebrate this seedy N.Y. club.

LONDON THEATER

'Piaf': A Star Is Reborn

By Sheridan Morley
International Herald Tribune

LONDON—It is perhaps debatable whether the director Peter Hall should engineer a nightly standing ovation for Elaine Paige as "Piaf" (Piccadilly) by having the supporting cast stand around to applaud her as she makes her final entrance.

What is beyond debate, however, is that this is one of the great star turns of the year, if not the decade. Hall and Paige have taken the fragile 15-year-old scrapbook of a play by Pam Gems and turned it into a breathtaking musical triumph by the simple device of focusing on the songs rather than the dialogue.

The original Howard Davies production, an admirable Royal Shakespeare Company effort led by Jane Lapotina, was inevitably limited by the fact that its star was an actress and not a great singer. Paige, by simply stepping herself in the old Piaf recordings and then redefining them with stunning accuracy and power, achieves a dramatic concert interrupted by fragments of biography.

But this was never a great play; Gems chose to tell the story of the little sparrow as a series of blackout sketches in minimal detail. Her "Piaf" is constantly in the ring, slugging it out against friends and managers and lovers, all of whom come to bear a remarkable resemblance to each other since none of them is adequately delineated. This must indeed be the only one-woman show with a complete cast of other male and female characters, in none of whom are we asked to take any but the most fleeting interest.

But when she sings, "Piaf" soars: as she tells her friend Josephine Baker, "they couldn't print enough money for the way we feel," and those of us lucky enough to have

seen her in person at the Olympia in Paris have always felt the same: no regrets.

Adrian Noble's admirable RSC policy of bringing the big stars back to Shakespeare (this year alone has seen the Branagh "Hamlet," the Robert Stephens "Lea" and the Alec McCowen "Propero") now goes somewhat awry with his Derek Jacobi "Macbeth" at the Barbican. The production itself has a kind of brisk, crisp efficiency—though as we get to the killing of Lady Macduff without any interval, it is debatable whether we need one at all—but the central casting presents an insuperable problem.

Jacobi is simply not a warrior. King of Scotland, our greatest poetic actor since Gielgud, has real trouble, as did Sir John, with the physicality of the role and seems by the final duel to have grown suicidal enough to fall on Macduff's sword. The alternative might have been for them to go off together and run a really good country-house hotel, leaving Malcolm, in charge of the nation, for this is the most genteel of productions unless you count the battering of Macduff's baby's head in a rare moment of horror.

Noble has the witches view the action from a stage lift, while Jacobi, the most noble and reluctant of hellbonds, keeps his careful distance from Cheryl Campbell, an Imelda Marcos of a Lady Macbeth in a series of designer gowns. There seems a certain vagueness about when and precisely where this "Macbeth" is all happening, and wherever it is you feel that the central figure would rather be someplace else. Everyone here keeps his distance, and there is never any sense of the danger or mystery or sex without which "Macbeth" as a play or as a man cannot truly function.

The supporting cast is never less than adequate, but never a lot more than that either: we have mysteriously been transported back not to 11th century Scotland but to the 1956 Old Vic.

Dawn French and Jennifer Saunders have achieved considerable local television success as a double act, but they have yet to make it in the straight theater and they are certainly not helped toward that goal by "Me and Miss O'Rourke," a dire American comedy at the Strand which looks like nothing so much as an overwrought pilot for a California television series which mercifully never got made.

Written by Mary Agnes Donoghue, who since the movie "Beaches" has been specializing in middle-aged female bonding screenplays, this one concerns two bosom buddies, one unaccountably married to a kind of anti-architect who persists in demolishing rather than building their Los Angeles hillside home.

Saunders plays this role with a kind of warm charm, while French bustles around as her overwrought pal. Both appear to have drifted onto the set from one of those daytime television chat shows where the dysfunctional expose themselves to the prurient. Not a happy sight.

Valkyries in a Neon Cage in Berlin's 'Ring'

By James Helme Sutcliffe

BERLIN—Whether it was wise for the last Bayreuth team of Daniel Barenboim, Harry Kupfer, Hans Scherwinn and Reinhard Heinrich—whose "Ring der Nibelungen" followed Peter Hall's ill-fated approach to the cycle seven years ago—to attempt a new version of the four-opera work so soon at the Berlin Staatsoper, remains to be seen.

The first new production, "Die

Walküre," did not look exactly like its Bayreuth version, but closer examination showed that the basic ideas are very similar—a sort of neon cage in which the trapped participants of the "Ring" story act out their fates (in Bayreuth it was an eternal road in a world destroyed by mankind's greed for power and wealth).

Kupfer's violent, often debasing stage action for Acts 2 and 3 has been substantially retained. As there is nothing to sit on, the gods and their family members flop onto

the floor, squatting, crouching, creeping on all fours. At one point, Wotan drags the reclining Brunnhilde 10 paces across the stage before turning his legs for no apparent reason.

As in Bayreuth, the scarily strong lighting is from both sides, giving the singers seemingly crossed eyes and shadows down the front of their faces.

The cut of the costumes is the same, but in Berlin the gods and Valkyries look as if they all have negligees on. This is particularly

grotesque for the warrior maidens as they all wear the white lions' manes and red eye makeup familiar to us from Kabuki theater, no doubt a very early form of cultural exchange.

Act 1 is, however, completely different, for the huge cool-textured trunk of a tree lies diagonally across the stage requiring some fleet-footed climbing from the singers. Here it was that the new production revealed its soft underbelly, for the aerobic, even calisthenic mating postures given to

Siegmond and Sieglinde were intricate, requiring exact coordination.

As luck would have it, this passage (from Sieglinde's re-entry at "Schilfist Du, Gast") to the end of the act) was where Barenboim chose to do the wildest experimentation with dynamics and tempo. He lashed up the strings to bring out a woodwind accompaniment pattern (the opera house's already dry acoustics made even drier by a black cloth mask surrounding her) and, interrupting the natural flow of the music so that the singers did not know where they were and stared at him constantly instead of singing and acting.

There was some fine singing, though, from the lighter, lyric Siegmund of Paul Eising through Waltraud Meier's mezzo Sieglinde and Eric Halfvarson's suspicious debut as a true bass Hunding. That is the role John Tomlinson should actually be singing, but as Wotan he has learned to cope with the higher baritone passages by crouching, and very well too. Uta Frieb made a voluptuous Fricka. Deborah Polaski has likewise learned to cope with murky registers in her exciting voice, no longer backing away from high notes. She is always the committed, exciting actress, as her Brunnhilde showed.

Making her sweet Siegmund's face with cold cream, turning him into a clown during the most serious moment of the opera, "Death's announcement" in Act 2, was just one more of Kupfer's questionable, gratuitous effects, but he is enough of a theater man to make the necessary changes.

"Die Walküre" plays on Wednesday and again on Dec. 29, returning to the repertoire in March 1994.

James Helme Sutcliffe is a Berlin-based critic and musician.

BOOKS

CHINA: The Next Economic Superpower

By William H. Overholt, 293
\$18.99 Weidenfeld and Nicholson

Reviewed by George Hicks

WHAT is the explanation of the so-called economic miracle that appears to be propelling China to superpower status at remarkably high speed? William H. Overholt, managing director of an American bank in Hong Kong, argues that in contrast to Russia and the countries of Eastern Europe, China's Communist leaders wisely pushed economic reform while retaining political control and stability.

The economy was progressively deregulated and market-oriented reforms introduced according to a logical, long-term plan starting with the agricultural sector. Much of the credit goes to Deng Xiaoping, who unlike the former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, got his priorities right and skillfully built up a coalition of interests to support his reform plans.

Overholt asserts that China is following the path of Taiwan and South Korea to political pluralism and democracy. Although he is optimistic about the eventual outcome—a China that is a prosperous and peace-loving economic superpower—he concedes that the course followed will have twists and turns, and could even go horribly awry. In particular, he says that the government has made a mistake by encouraging virtually everyone from the military to schoolteachers to make money through private business. Another adverse trend is the collapse of tax revenues that have starved the central government of funds.

The overall tone and content of the book is unabashedly pro-Beying. Overholt fails to condemn the ruthless and bloody suppression of the pro-democracy movement in China in 1989. He heaps praise on Deng as someone who has "done more to alleviate world poverty than any other man in world history."

Overholt is a full-blooded Western devotee of China. The 1980s was a decade of critical books about the country written by journalists who had served time in Beijing. One has to go back to John Fairbank in 1972—"The Manist revolution is on the whole the best thing that happened to the Chinese people in centuries"—to match Overholt's enthusiasm. Simone de Beauvoir in 1958 wrote in a similar vein that China was a nation "where the government pays the scholars and statesman are scholars and poets."

Overholt goes further than the usual pro-Beying line taken by Hong Kong big business and China traders. While they never lose sight of where their bread is buttered, at least they preserve a modicum of cynicism. Current British policy on Hong Kong is subject to a long, one-sided attack in the book. This criticism is better written but otherwise unchanged from Beijing's official version.

Overholt's book elevates the notion that stability, economic devel-

opment and business profits should always take precedence over personal freedom. Self-determination is not a word in his vocabulary. The people of Tibet, Hong Kong and Taiwan should all bow to their rulers in Beijing.

The idea that capital, investment and trade flooding into China as it opens to the outside world will dissolve the tyrannical heritage of the country's past carries economic determinism far beyond that of Marx. Like many others, Overholt has

been swept off his feet by the China boom. As he was finishing the last chapter of his book, he spent three days traveling around southern Guangdong once again, marveling that "rule after rule, in all directions, one just sees construction." This, he enthuses, is "the moment of rejuvenation for history's most populous nation."

George Hicks, author of several books on Asia, wrote this for the International Herald Tribune.

BEST-SELLERS

The New York Times
This list is based on reports from more than 2,000 bookstores throughout the United States. Weeks on list are not necessarily consecutive.

Week	TITLES	Last Week
1	SLOW WALTZ IN CEDAR BEND, by James Walsh	1
2	THE BRIDGES OF MADISON COUNTY, by Robert James Waller	2
3	NIGHTMARES & DREAMS, by Stephen King	3
4	WITHOUT REMORSE, by Tom Clancy	4
5	THE HOPE, by Herman Wouk	5
6	THE BOOK OF GUYS, by Garrison Keillor	6
7	LASHER, by Anne Rice	7
8	THE CLIENT, by John Grisham	8
9	WATER FOR CHOCOLATE, by Laura Esquivel	9
10	THE TRUCE AT BAKURA, by Kevin Jax	10
11	MR. MURDER, by Dean Koontz	11

12	A DANGEROUS FOR-TUNE, by Ken Follet	10
13	DECIDER, by Dick Francis	13
14	THE GOLDEN MEAN, by Nick Bostrom	11
15	THE ROBBERS BRIDE, by Margaret Atwood	12

NONFICTION

1	SEE, I TOLD YOU SO, by Ruth H. Limbaugh Jr.	1
2	PRIVATE PARTS, by Howard Stern	2
3	SENLANGUAGE, by Jerry Seinfeld	3
4	THE HIDDEN LIFE OF DOGS, by Elizabeth Marshall Hall	4
5	WOULDN'T TAKE NOTHING FOR MY JOURNEY NOW, by Maya Angelou	5
6	HAVING OUR SAY, by Sarah and A. Elizabeth Delany with Amy Hill Heath	6
7	EMBRACED BY THE LIGHT, by Betty J. Eadie	7
8	LOVE CAN BUILD A BRIDGE, by Naomi Judd	8
9	A MARRIAGE MADE IN HEAVEN, OR TOO TIRED FOR AN AFFAIR, by Erna Borneman	9

16	THE BEST CAT EVER, by Cleveland Amory	13
17	STAR TREK MEMORIES, by William Shatner with Cate Korbi	14
18	WOMEN WHO RUN WITH THE WOLVES, by Clarissa Pinkola Estés	11
19	I TOOK A LICKING AND KEPT A TICKIN', by Lewis Grizzard	12
20	THE DOWNING STREET YEARS, by Margaret Thatcher	10
21	FURTHER ALONG THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED, by M. Scott Peck	14

ADVICE, HOW-TO AND MISCELLANEOUS

1	AND IF YOU PLAY GOLF, YOU'RE MY FRIEND, by Harvey Penick with Cecil Sharpe	2
2	AGELESS BOY, TIME-LESS MIND, by Deepak Chopra	1
3	MEN ARE FROM MARS, WOMEN ARE FROM VENUS, by John Gray	3
4	STOP THE INSANITY!, by Stan Pavlovic	4



CHRISTINE OCKRENT, TV NEWS PERSONALITY

People at the top read the Trib.

Herald Tribune

Dining Out

AMSTERDAM	PARIS 15th
HAESJE CLAES Real Dutch Cooking. Open from lunch until midnight. Serves 273. Open 7/7, 10 AM, CAFE BAR'S 10 AM-10 PM. 1, rue de Montfaucon. Tel.: 42.60.60.26.	LE TOIT DE PARIS New Year's Eve Gala Dinner, with live music and dancing. Special menu with gastronomic specialties of the Toit de Paris on the 10th floor overlooking a superb view of the sparkling capital and the majestic Eiffel Tower. FF 1450 (taxis not included). Paris Hilton 18, av. Suffren. Tel.: 42.73.92.00.
PARIS 7th	BOHME
CARR'S FRENCH RESTAURANT BAR French/Fish cuisine. Weekend brunch 7:30-10:30 AM. CAFE BAR'S 10 AM-10 PM. 1, rue de Montfaucon. Tel.: 42.60.60.26.	YUGURAJ Held on the best Italian restaurant in France by the leading chefs for 15 years. 14, rue Dauphine 1. Tel.: 42.24.41.91.
PARIS 7th	YVANSARA
THOUMREUX Specialties of the South-West. Confit de canard & escalope au cassis de grenade. All conventional. Open every day and night. 79 rue St. Dominique. Tel.: (1) 47.05.49.73. Near Invalides Terminal.	KERVANSARAY Turkish & Levantine specialties, lobster bar, best seafood restaurant, 1st floor. Mableau, 7, Tel.: 51.28.84.3. Air conditioned. 90m. Open: Noon-11 p.m. & 6 p.m.-1 a.m., except Sunday. Open holidays.

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NYSE

Tuesday's Closing

Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

12 Month High Low Stock NYSE High Low Stock NYSE High Low Stock NYSE High Low Stock NYSE

12 Month High	12 Month Low	Stock	NYSE High	NYSE Low	Stock	NYSE High	NYSE Low	Stock	NYSE High	NYSE Low
100.00	80.00	IBM	100.00	80.00	IBM	100.00	80.00	IBM	100.00	80.00
150.00	120.00	Microsoft	150.00	120.00	Microsoft	150.00	120.00	Microsoft	150.00	120.00
200.00	180.00	Oracle	200.00	180.00	Oracle	200.00	180.00	Oracle	200.00	180.00
300.00	280.00	Cisco	300.00	280.00	Cisco	300.00	280.00	Cisco	300.00	280.00
400.00	380.00	Intel	400.00	380.00	Intel	400.00	380.00	Intel	400.00	380.00
500.00	480.00	Sun	500.00	480.00	Sun	500.00	480.00	Sun	500.00	480.00
600.00	580.00	HP	600.00	580.00	HP	600.00	580.00	HP	600.00	580.00
700.00	680.00	Motorola	700.00	680.00	Motorola	700.00	680.00	Motorola	700.00	680.00
800.00	780.00	Rockwell	800.00	780.00	Rockwell	800.00	780.00	Rockwell	800.00	780.00
900.00	880.00	WorldCom	900.00	880.00	WorldCom	900.00	880.00	WorldCom	900.00	880.00
1000.00	980.00	Verizon	1000.00	980.00	Verizon	1000.00	980.00	Verizon	1000.00	980.00

12 Month High	12 Month Low	Stock	NYSE High	NYSE Low	Stock	NYSE High	NYSE Low	Stock	NYSE High	NYSE Low
1100.00	1080.00	AT&T	1100.00	1080.00	AT&T	1100.00	1080.00	AT&T	1100.00	1080.00
1200.00	1180.00	Comcast	1200.00	1180.00	Comcast	1200.00	1180.00	Comcast	1200.00	1180.00
1300.00	1280.00	Time Warner	1300.00	1280.00	Time Warner	1300.00	1280.00	Time Warner	1300.00	1280.00
1400.00	1380.00	News Corp	1400.00	1380.00	News Corp	1400.00	1380.00	News Corp	1400.00	1380.00
1500.00	1480.00	Amgen	1500.00	1480.00	Amgen	1500.00	1480.00	Amgen	1500.00	1480.00
1600.00	1580.00	Boeing	1600.00	1580.00	Boeing	1600.00	1580.00	Boeing	1600.00	1580.00
1700.00	1680.00	Lockheed	1700.00	1680.00	Lockheed	1700.00	1680.00	Lockheed	1700.00	1680.00
1800.00	1780.00	General Electric	1800.00	1780.00	General Electric	1800.00	1780.00	General Electric	1800.00	1780.00
1900.00	1880.00	Walt Disney	1900.00	1880.00	Walt Disney	1900.00	1880.00	Walt Disney	1900.00	1880.00
2000.00	1980.00	Johnson & Johnson	2000.00	1980.00	Johnson & Johnson	2000.00	1980.00	Johnson & Johnson	2000.00	1980.00

12 Month High	12 Month Low	Stock	NYSE High	NYSE Low	Stock	NYSE High	NYSE Low	Stock	NYSE High	NYSE Low
2100.00	2080.00	Pfizer	2100.00	2080.00	Pfizer	2100.00	2080.00	Pfizer	2100.00	2080.00
2200.00	2180.00	Merck	2200.00	2180.00	Merck	2200.00	2180.00	Merck	2200.00	2180.00
2300.00	2280.00	Novartis	2300.00	2280.00	Novartis	2300.00	2280.00	Novartis	2300.00	2280.00
2400.00	2380.00	Roche	2400.00	2380.00	Roche	2400.00	2380.00	Roche	2400.00	2380.00
2500.00	2480.00	Novo Nordisk	2500.00	2480.00	Novo Nordisk	2500.00	2480.00	Novo Nordisk	2500.00	2480.00
2600.00	2580.00	Abbott	2600.00	2580.00	Abbott	2600.00	2580.00	Abbott	2600.00	2580.00
2700.00	2680.00	Amgen	2700.00	2680.00	Amgen	2700.00	2680.00	Amgen	2700.00	2680.00
2800.00	2780.00	Boeing	2800.00	2780.00	Boeing	2800.00	2780.00	Boeing	2800.00	2780.00
2900.00	2880.00	Lockheed	2900.00	2880.00	Lockheed	2900.00	2880.00	Lockheed	2900.00	2880.00
3000.00	2980.00	General Electric	3000.00	2980.00	General Electric	3000.00	2980.00	General Electric	3000.00	2980.00

12 Month High	12 Month Low	Stock	NYSE High	NYSE Low	Stock	NYSE High	NYSE Low	Stock	NYSE High	NYSE Low
3100.00	3080.00	Walt Disney	3100.00	3080.00	Walt Disney	3100.00	3080.00	Walt Disney	3100.00	3080.00
3200.00	3180.00	Johnson & Johnson	3200.00	3180.00	Johnson & Johnson	3200.00	3180.00	Johnson & Johnson	3200.00	3180.00
3300.00	3280.00	Pfizer	3300.00	3280.00	Pfizer	3300.00	3280.00	Pfizer	3300.00	3280.00
3400.00	3380.00	Merck	3400.00	3380.00	Merck	3400.00	3380.00	Merck	3400.00	3380.00
3500.00	3480.00	Novartis	3500.00	3480.00	Novartis	3500.00	3480.00	Novartis	3500.00	3480.00
3600.00	3580.00	Roche	3600.00	3580.00	Roche	3600.00	3580.00	Roche	3600.00	3580.00
3700.00	3680.00	Novo Nordisk	3700.00	3680.00	Novo Nordisk	3700.00	3680.00	Novo Nordisk	3700.00	3680.00
3800.00	3780.00	Abbott	3800.00	3780.00	Abbott	3800.00	3780.00	Abbott	3800.00	3780.00
3900.00	3880.00	Amgen	3900.00	3880.00	Amgen	3900.00	3880.00	Amgen	3900.00	3880.00
4000.00	3980.00	Boeing	4000.00	3980.00	Boeing	4000.00	3980.00	Boeing	4000.00	3980.00

12 Month High	12 Month Low	Stock	NYSE High	NYSE Low	Stock	NYSE High	NYSE Low	Stock	NYSE High	NYSE Low
4100.00	4080.00	Lockheed	4100.00	4080.00	Lockheed	4100.00	4080.00	Lockheed	4100.00	4080.00
4200.00	4180.00	General Electric	4200.00	4180.00	General Electric	4200.00	4180.00	General Electric	4200.00	4180.00
4300.00	4280.00	Walt Disney	4300.00	4280.00	Walt Disney	4300.00	4280.00	Walt Disney	4300.00	4280.00
4400.00	4380.00	Johnson & Johnson	4400.00	4380.00	Johnson & Johnson	4400.00	4380.00	Johnson & Johnson	4400.00	4380.00
4500.00	4480.00	Pfizer	4500.00	4480.00	Pfizer	4500.00	4480.00	Pfizer	4500.00	4480.00
4600.00	4580.00	Merck	4600.00	4580.00	Merck	4600.00	4580.00	Merck	4600.00	4580.00
4700.00	4680.00	Novartis	4700.00	4680.00	Novartis	4700.00	4680.00	Novartis	4700.00	4680.00
4800.00	4780.00	Roche	4800.00	4780.00	Roche	4800.00	4780.00	Roche	4800.00	4780.00
4900.00	4880.00	Novo Nordisk	4900.00	4880.00	Novo Nordisk	4900.00	4880.00	Novo Nordisk	4900.00	4880.00
5000.00	4980.00	Abbott	5000.00	4980.00	Abbott	5000.00	4980.00	Abbott	5000.00	4980.00

12 Month High	12 Month Low	Stock	NYSE High	NYSE Low	Stock	NYSE High	NYSE Low	Stock	NYSE High	NYSE Low
5100.00	5080.00	Amgen	5100.00	5080.00	Amgen	5100.00	5080.00	Amgen	5100.00	5080.00
5200.00	5180.00	Boeing	5200.00	5180.00	Boeing	5200.00	5180.00	Boeing	5200.00	5180.00
5300.00	5280.00	Lockheed	5300.00	5280.00	Lockheed	5300.00	5280.00	Lockheed	5300.00	5280.00
5400.00	5380.00	General Electric	5400.00	5380.00	General Electric	5400.00	5380.00	General Electric	5400.00	5380.00
5500.00	5480.00	Walt Disney	5500.00	5480.00	Walt Disney	5500.00	5480.00	Walt Disney	5500.00	5480.00
5600.00	5580.00	Johnson & Johnson	5600.00	5580.00	Johnson & Johnson	5600.00	5580.00	Johnson & Johnson	5600.00	5580.00
5700.00	5680.00	Pfizer	5700.00	5680.00	Pfizer	5700.00	5680.00	Pfizer	5700.00	5680.00
5800.00	5780.00	Merck	5800.00	5780.00	Merck	5800.00	5780.00	Merck	5800.00	5780.00
5900.00	5880.00	Novartis	5900.00	5880.00	Novartis	5900.00	5880.00	Novartis	5900.00	5880.00
6000.00	5980.00	Roche	6000.00	5980.00	Roche	6000.00	5980.00	Roche	6000.00	5980.00

12 Month High	12 Month Low	Stock	NYSE High	NYSE Low	Stock	NYSE High	NYSE Low	Stock	NYSE High	NYSE Low
6100.00	6080.00	Novo Nordisk	6100.00	6080.00	Novo Nordisk	6100.00	6080.00	Novo Nordisk	6100.00	6080.00
6200.00	6180.00	Abbott	6200.00	6180.00	Abbott	6200.00	6180.00	Abbott	6200.00	6180.00
6300.00	6280.00	Amgen	6300.00	6280.00	Amgen	6300.00	6280.00	Amgen	6300.00	6280.00
6400.00	6380.00	Boeing	6400.00	6380.00	Boeing	6400.00	6380.00	Boeing	6400.00	6380.00
6500.00	6480.00	Lockheed	6500.00	6480.00	Lockheed	6500.00	6480.00	Lockheed	6500.00	6480.00
6600.00	6580.00	General Electric	6600.00	6580.00	General Electric	6600.00	6580.00	General Electric	6600.00	6580.00
6700.00	6680.00	Walt Disney	6700.00	6680.00	Walt Disney	6700.00	6680.00	Walt Disney	6700.00	6680.00
6800.00	6780.00	Johnson & Johnson	6800.00	6780.00	Johnson & Johnson	6800.00	6780.00	Johnson & Johnson	6800.00	6780.00
6900.00	6880.00	Pfizer	6900.00	6880.00	Pfizer	6900.00	6880.00	Pfizer	6900.00	6880.00
7000.00	6980.00	Merck	7000.00	6980.00	Merck	7000.00	6980.00	Merck	7000.00	6980.00

12 Month High	12 Month Low	Stock	NYSE High	NYSE Low	Stock	NYSE High	NYSE Low	Stock	NYSE High	NYSE Low
7100.00	7080.00	Novartis	7100.00	7080.00	Novartis	7100.00	7080.00	Novartis	7100.00	7080.00
7200.00	7180.00	Roche	7200.00	7180.00	Roche	7200.00	7180.00	Roche	7200.00	7180.00
7300.00	7280.00	Novo Nordisk	7300.00	7280.00	Novo Nordisk	7300.00	7280.00	Novo Nordisk	7300.00	7280.00
7400.00	7380.00	Abbott	7400.00	7380.00	Abbott	7400.00	7380.00	Abbott	7400.00	7380.00
7500.00	7480.00	Amgen	7500.00	7480.00	Amgen	7500.00	7480.00	Amgen	7500.00	7480.00
7600.00	7580.00	Boeing	7600.00	7580.00	Boeing	7600.00	7580.00	Boeing	7600.00	7580.00
7700.00	7680.00	Lockheed	7700.00	7680.00	Lockheed	7700.00	7680.00	Lockheed	7700.00	7680.00
7800.00	7780.00	General Electric	7800.00	7780.00	General Electric	7800.00	7780.00	General Electric	7800.00	7780.00
7900.00	7880.00	Walt Disney	7900.00	7880.00	Walt Disney	7900.00	7880.00	Walt Disney	7900.00	7880.00
8000.00	7980									

Dollar Reaches 111 Yen as U.S. Shifts Focus

NEW YORK — The dollar rose above 111 yen Tuesday, even though Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen said the U.S. government still wanted its trade deficit with Japan to shrink.

'God of Quality Control' The Man Who Taught Japan to Produce

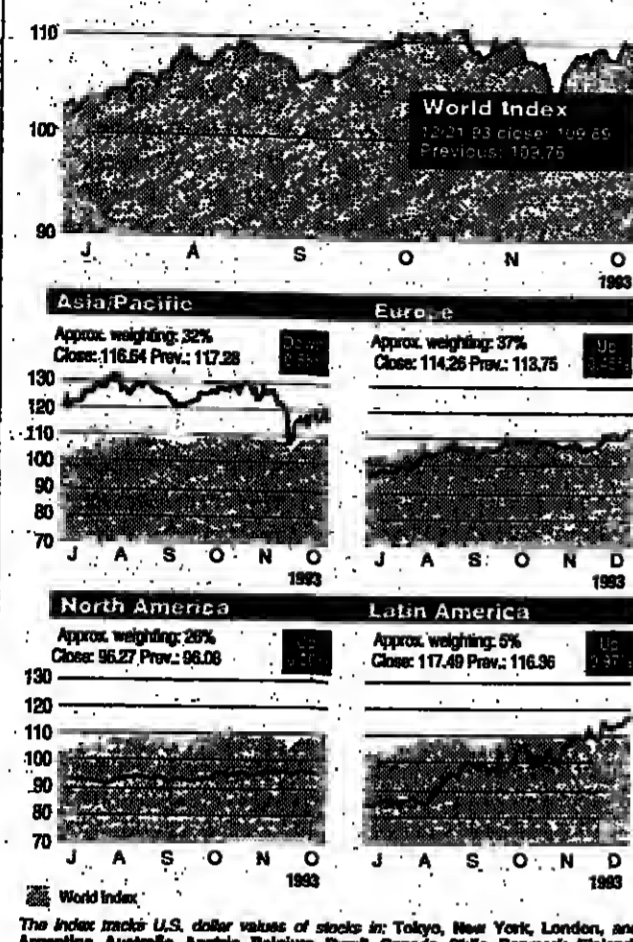
TOKYO — It was 1950, when Hajime Karatsu was still a young engineer at the phone company and Japanese products were famed for being cheap and shoddy, that he went to hear W. Edwards Deming lecture about quality control.

Gore Vows Easy Access To U.S. Data Highway

WASHINGTON — Vice President Al Gore said Tuesday that the administration would propose legislation to ensure all Americans have access to a national information network that is taking shape and that hinders to competition by removing barriers from all communications companies.

THE TRIB INDEX: 109.89

International Herald Tribune World Stock Index, composed of 280 internationally investable stocks from 25 countries, compiled by Bloomberg Business News, Jan. 1, 1982 = 100.



The index tracks U.S. dollar values of stocks in Tokyo, New York, London, and other major financial centers.

Table with 4 columns: Sector, Current Price, Previous Price, Change. Rows include Energy, Utilities, Finance, Services, Capital Goods, Raw Materials, Consumer Goods, and Miscellaneous.

Wary of Unrest, China Sets Prices of Basics Again

BEIJING — Chinese authorities are re-instituting price controls on grain and other staple foods after rumors of shortages led to sharp price increases, official newspapers announced Tuesday.

MEDIA MARKETS

Now, Readers Talk Back to Editors

By Deirdre Cazmody, New York Times Service. EW YORK — Ever on the lookout for new readers, the magazine industry seems to have hit pay dirt. It has discovered electronic publishing. Almost 100 magazines have signed up with on-line computer services in the last six months and others are joining at the rate of two or three a week.

BANKING CLIENTS HAVE ALWAYS EXPECTED OUTSTANDING PERSONAL SERVICE. TODAY THEY FIND IT WITH US.



During the Renaissance, trusted advisors helped administer the finances and protect the interests of private individuals. The role demanded judgment, commitment and skill.

REPUBLIC NATIONAL BANK OF NEW YORK (SUISSE) SA. A SAFRA BANK. HEAD OFFICE: GENEVA 1204. BRANCHES: LUGANO, MILAN, PARIS, MONTREAL, etc.

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

Financial data table with columns for Cross Rates, Eurocurrency Deposits, Key Money Rates, and Forward Rates. Includes exchange rates for various currencies and interest rates for different terms.

MARKET DIARY

Weak Bonds Send Stock Prices Lower

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — Stocks slid on the New York Stock Exchange Tuesday as weak bond prices and profit-taking pressured the market for the second straight day.

The Dow Jones industrial average, which inched up 3.64 points Monday, was down 10.06 points to 3,745.13.

Big losses in a number of Dow components, including Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing, which fell 2 1/2 to 109 1/2, Alcoa, which tumbled 1 1/2 to 68 1/2, and J.P. Morgan, which sank 1 1/2 to 71 1/2, dragged the key barometer deeper into negative territory.

In addition, shares of retailers led by Sears Roebuck, were hurt by forecasts that they would report lower-than-expected holiday sales. December sales are projected to fall 1.7 percent from November based on sales for the first three weeks of the month, according to a survey by Jansons Redbook Service.

Sears declined 1 1/2 to 59 1/2. Tiffany fell 1 1/2 to 36 1/4 after Dean Witte said the investment rating to "swap" from "neutral." Ross Stores slumped 3 1/2 to 13 1/4 after the com-

pany said weak holiday sales will drag down fiscal 1994 earnings. Meaningful speculation increased that the Federal Reserve Bank may soon boost money-market rates to keep inflation subdued.

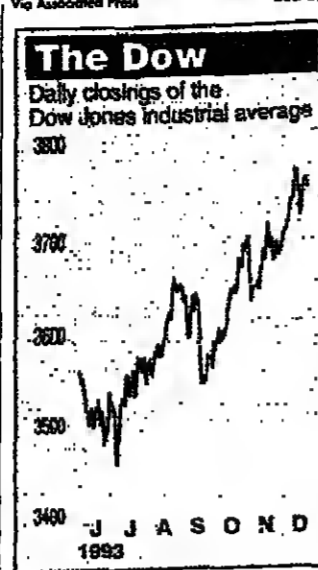
The yield on the bellwether 30-year Treasury rose to 6.32 percent, from 6.29 percent Monday.

Dennis Jarrett, chief market strategist at Kidder Peabody & Co., said the market was encountering "a little bit of profit taking, but I don't see any abnormal pressure."

He said he expected the market to have "a little bit of upward bias for the rest of the year, particularly next week. The last week of the year is particularly strong for stocks because of the January effect." The so-called January effect refers to the investors' practice of buying back stocks that have been discarded at the end of the year.

Borden paced the Big Board average, rising 1 1/2 to 19 1/4 on a published report that Hanson PLC, the Anglo-American conglomerate, was considering an offer for Borden.

In over-the-counter trading, Intel shares rose 1 to 59 1/4 after the chip maker said it expected to slash prices on its Pentium and 486 chips as much as 18 percent in the second quarter. (UPI, Bloomberg)



NYSE Most Actives

Table listing NYSE Most Actives with columns for Volume, High, Low, Last, and Change. Includes stocks like Borden, Intel, and Intel.

NYSE Most Actives

Table listing NYSE Most Actives with columns for Volume, High, Low, Last, and Change. Includes stocks like Intel, Intel, Intel.

NYSE Diary

Table listing NYSE Diary with columns for Class, Prev., and Change. Includes categories like Advanced, Declined, Unchanged, and Total Issues.

Amex Diary

Table listing Amex Diary with columns for Class, Prev., and Change. Includes categories like Advanced, Declined, Unchanged, and Total Issues.

NASDAQ Diary

Table listing NASDAQ Diary with columns for Class, Prev., and Change. Includes categories like Advanced, Declined, Unchanged, and Total Issues.

Dow Jones Averages

Table showing Dow Jones Averages with columns for Index, High, Low, Last, and Change. Includes Industrial, Composite, and Total.

Standard & Poor's Indexes

Table showing Standard & Poor's Indexes with columns for Index, High, Low, Last, and Change. Includes Industrial, Composite, and Total.

NYSE Indexes

Table showing NYSE Indexes with columns for Index, High, Low, Last, and Change. Includes Composite, Industrial, and Total.

NASDAQ Indexes

Table showing NASDAQ Indexes with columns for Index, High, Low, Last, and Change. Includes Composite, Industrial, and Total.

ANEX Stock Index

Table showing ANEX Stock Index with columns for Index, High, Low, Last, and Change.

Dow Jones Bond Averages

Table showing Dow Jones Bond Averages with columns for Index, High, Low, Last, and Change. Includes 30 Year, 10 Year, and Total.

Market Sales

Table showing Market Sales with columns for NYSE, Amex, and NASDAQ. Includes Volume and Value.

N.Y.S.E. Odd-Lot Trading

Table showing N.Y.S.E. Odd-Lot Trading with columns for Buy, Sell, and Total.

S&P 100 Index Options

Table showing S&P 100 Index Options with columns for Strike, Call, Put, and Total.

EUROPEAN FUTURES

Table showing EUROPEAN FUTURES with columns for Class, High, Low, Last, and Change. Includes Food and Industrials.

Metals

Table showing Metals with columns for Class, High, Low, Last, and Change. Includes Aluminum and Copper.

Financial

Table showing Financial with columns for Class, High, Low, Last, and Change. Includes 3-Month and 6-Month.

U.S. FUTURES

Table showing U.S. FUTURES with columns for Class, High, Low, Last, and Change. Includes Wheat and Corn.

Grains

Table showing Grains with columns for Class, High, Low, Last, and Change. Includes Wheat and Corn.

Metals

Table showing Metals with columns for Class, High, Low, Last, and Change. Includes Copper and Nickel.

Livestock

Table showing Livestock with columns for Class, High, Low, Last, and Change. Includes Cattle and Hogs.

Food

Table showing Food with columns for Class, High, Low, Last, and Change. Includes Coffee and Sugar.

DOLLAR: New Rise Against Yen

Continued from Page 9

distance level of 111 yen to the dollar had been broken, said the market will be targeting 112 yen to the dollar, another important technical level, next week.

The dollar weakened against other major currencies. It was quoted at 1,707.20 Deutsche marks, off from 1,712.90 DM Monday, at 1,485.5 Swiss francs, compared with

1,458.00 francs, and 5,811.5 French francs, down from 5,830.00, the pound rose to \$1.4835 from \$1.4865.

Both the yen and Japanese stocks in Tokyo were lower after Finance Minister Hirohisa Fujii said the government was not preparing any measures to revive the economy, the remark contradicted a report in the Nihon Keizai newspaper that such measures would be unveiled this week.

"People are questioning the Japanese government's ability to spur economic growth," Amy Smith, currency-market strategist at the consulting firm IDEA, said. The longer the government waits to announce a new economic-stimulus package, the more pressure there is on the Bank of Japan to cut interest rates, she said.

Lower interest rates would hurt the yen by making it even less profitable to own short-term deposits in the Japanese unit instead of currencies of countries with higher rates. The Japanese discount rate of 1.75

percent compares with 3 percent in the United States and 5.75 percent in Germany.

Signs that Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa may be losing support within his seven-party coalition have helped drive the yen down 3.5 percent against the dollar since Dec. 7. Without such support, it will be difficult for Mr. Hosokawa to implement another spending package.

Mr. Hosokawa's government announced on Sept. 16 it would spend 6.2 trillion yen (\$56.06 billion) to spur the Japanese economy. Five days later, the Bank of Japan cut its discount rate three-quarters of a point, to its current level. But the Japanese economy has remained sluggish.

"The Japanese economy is in bad shape," said John Hardy, managing director at InterCap Investment, which runs a currency-trading fund. "The only thing supporting the yen is Japan's trade surplus, and even that is starting to shrink."

Japan's merchandise trade surplus narrowed 2.2 percent in November, to \$7.40 billion, despite the widening of the surplus with the United States.

Mr. Clinton's earlier calls for a stronger yen to cut the trade surplus helped push the dollar to a low of 100.35 yen on Aug. 17.

"The dollar will go a lot higher in 1994," Mr. Hardy said. "Nothing goes in a straight line, but it should be a pretty risk-free move."

(AFX, Bloomberg, AP)

Daimler-Benz Payout Unsure

STUTTGART — Daimler-Benz AG cannot guarantee it will maintain its 1993 dividend at 1992's level of 13 Deutsche marks (\$7.59) despite having sufficient reserves to do so, a company spokesman said Tuesday.

The spokesman was clarifying remarks Monday by Chairman Edzard Reuter, who said the company had "the reserves necessary" to pay "a dividend at last year's level."

According to the spokesman, Mr. Reuter said that any decision on the dividend, which will be made by April, "will demand very careful consideration." Bob Barber, an analyst at James Capel & Co., forecast Daimler would cut its 1993 dividend to 8 DM.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Table showing World Stock Markets with columns for Market, Class, Prev., and Change. Includes Amsterdam, Helsinki, Hong Kong, Brussels, Johannesburg, Frankfurt, London, Milan, Singapore, Stockholm, and Montreal.

Table showing Toronto with columns for Class, Prev., and Change. Includes various stock indices and individual stocks.

Table showing Sydney with columns for Class, Prev., and Change. Includes various stock indices and individual stocks.

Table showing Paris with columns for Class, Prev., and Change. Includes various stock indices and individual stocks.

Table showing Sao Paulo with columns for Class, Prev., and Change. Includes various stock indices and individual stocks.

Table showing Zurich with columns for Class, Prev., and Change. Includes various stock indices and individual stocks.

Table showing U.S. Futures with columns for Class, High, Low, Last, and Change. Includes Wheat, Corn, and Soybeans.

Table showing U.S. Futures with columns for Class, High, Low, Last, and Change. Includes Cattle, Hogs, and Pigs.

Table showing U.S. Futures with columns for Class, High, Low, Last, and Change. Includes Coffee, Sugar, and Cocoa.

Table showing U.S. Futures with columns for Class, High, Low, Last, and Change. Includes Oil, Gas, and Gold.

Table showing U.S. Futures with columns for Class, High, Low, Last, and Change. Includes Various Commodities.

U.S./AT THE CLOSE

Businesses Plan More Investment

WASHINGTON (AP) — American businesses plan to increase investment in new buildings and equipment by 5.4 percent next year after a 2 percent rise this year, the government said Tuesday.

Based on survey responses from more than 7,800 businesses in October and November, the Commerce Department estimated investment spending plans next year at \$617 billion, up from \$585 billion this year.

McDonnell to Take a Big Charge

CHICAGO (Reuters) — McDonnell Douglas Corp. said Tuesday that it would take a fourth-quarter charge to pre-tax earnings of about \$450 million related to its C-17 settlement proposal with the government.

"The number is in line with what the company has been telegraphing, but there may be some disappointment that McDonnell wasn't able to work out an even better deal," said Jerry Cantwell of Lionheart Research. McDonnell Douglas stock fell \$3.125, closing at \$106.375.

Shares of QVC and Paramount Fall

NEW YORK (Combined Dispatches) — QVC Network Inc.'s stock slumped Tuesday as the company appeared close to owning Paramount Communications Inc. Paramont's also fell, as investors apparently considered QVC's latest bid disappointingly low.

QVC, a home-shopping-network operator, said late Monday that it had raised its bid and had been told by Paramont that its new offer was higher than one from Viacom Inc. A spokesman for Paramont declined to confirm that, but the report helped send QVC stock down, reflecting a belief in the market that from QVC's point of view, the bidding was dangerously high. It fell \$1.50, to close at \$42, in over-the-counter trading.

Viacom Class A stock rose 62.5 cents, to \$49.875, on the American Stock Exchange, and Paramont lost \$1.75, to \$80.25, on the New York Stock Exchange. (AP, Bloomberg)

IBM Names Chief of PC Company

ARMONK, N.Y. (Bloomberg) — International Business Machines Corp. on Tuesday named G. Richard Thomas, a former executive with RJR Nabisco Holdings Corp., senior vice president and group executive responsible for IBM Personal Computer Co.

Mr. Thomas, 49, also will be the executive responsible for IBM Power Personal Systems Division, Paramont Systems printers, a joint venture with Hitachi Ltd., and Productivity Services Co., the electronic-mail joint venture with Sears, Roebuck & Co.

SCI Buying Hewlett Plant in France

HUNTSVILLE, Alabama (Reuters) — SCI Systems Inc. said Tuesday that it had a preliminary agreement to acquire Hewlett-Packard France's plant in Grenoble that makes electronic assemblies for several of Hewlett-Packard's operations in Europe. Terms were not disclosed.

SCI said a substantial portion of the plant's business would continue after the acquisition.

Packard Bell Sees 35% Rise in Sales

CHATEAUX, California (Bloomberg) — Packard Bell Electronics Inc., 20 percent owned by France's Groupe Bull, reported provisionally Tuesday a 35 percent increase in revenue for 1993, to \$1.25 billion.

A spokesman for the closely held maker of personal computers said 1994 revenue was expected to nearly double, to \$2.3 billion.

For the Record

American Cyanamid Co. is acquiring most of Shell Petroleum Co.'s crop-protection operation for an undisclosed price. (Bloomberg)

The Philadelphia Stock Exchange's board rejected a revised merger proposal from the Chicago Board Options Exchange. (Bloomberg)

Knight-Ridder Inc. said it bought Spain's screen-based financial news service, EFECOM, for an undisclosed sum. (AP)

Home Shopping Network Inc. and Tele-Communications Inc. agreed to form a global venture, Home Shopping Network International. (APX)

Stock Indexes

Table showing Stock Indexes with columns for Index, High, Low, Last, and Change. Includes S&P 500, NYSE, and NASDAQ.

Commodity Indexes

Table showing Commodity Indexes with columns for Index, High, Low, Last, and Change. Includes Wheat, Corn, and Oil.

EC Sets Limits For Dublin Aid To Aer Lingus

Bloomberg Business News

PARIS — The European Commission approved a financial rescue package on Tuesday for the Irish national airline Aer Lingus, but with strict conditions attached.

Though the airline carrier will be permitted to accept 175 million pounds (\$247.0 million) from its only shareholder, the Irish government, it may not use those funds to increase capacity, or the number of seats it flies on certain routes.

Michael Bishop, chairman of British Midland, whose airline competes with Aer Lingus, said: "We asked the EC to apply conditions to prevent the new state aid equity from being used for purposes other than the specific financial restructuring of the airline. If it becomes clear this is not the case, we will consider legal action."

Mr. Bishop had threatened earlier to sue the Commission if it did not uphold its mandate to keep competition fair by restricting state aid to carriers. He expressed concern at the absence of specific conditions to ensure that Aer Lingus does not use the equity to help it offer "uneconomic fares" on its Dublin-to-London route.

Besides limiting capacity on its routes between Ireland and Britain,

Hungary Sets Pace for Phone Sales

Massive Untapped Markets Seen Bringing High Prices

By Jane Perlez
New York Times Service

WARSAW — The acquisition of a 30 percent stake in the Hungarian state telephone company for \$575 million by an American-German consortium is likely to set the pace for other phone privatizations in Eastern Europe, where decrepit services are woefully inadequate for the expanding numbers of business and personal callers.

The deal, announced in Budapest on Sunday, is one of the biggest privatization deals in Eastern Europe. Ameritech Corp. and Deutsche Bundespost — in the called MagyarCom — will have the exclusive concession to provide domestic long-distance and international service. It will also have the concession to provide local service in 29 of 56 regions.

Ameritech and Deutsche Bundespost became 50-50 partners in MagyarCom after a last-minute decision by Cable & Wireless PLC of Britain to pull out of the group last week.

The next phone company in Eastern Europe up for bidding is the Czech state SPT Telecom, which could draw an even higher price, Western analysts said. There are approximately 17 telephones for each 100 inhabitants in the Czech Republic, and the number of attempts at dialing that a caller has to make before getting through is unusually high.

for a dial tone. Only 10 percent to 12 percent of Hungarians have phone lines, according to Andrej Bunde, the president of Ameritech International. "We hope it will be up in 30 percent by 2000," he said.

For the next eight years, the consortium of Ameritech and Deutsche Bundespost — in the called MagyarCom — will have the exclusive concession to provide domestic long-distance and international service. It will also have the concession to provide local service in 29 of 56 regions.

Their investment exceeds those by General Electric Co. in the Hungarian light bulb maker Tungsram, and is in the range of Volkswagen AG's stake so far in Skoda Automobily AS of the Czech Republic.

For Western phone companies like Ameritech, a regional Bell operating company, Eastern Europe represents a vast field of expansion. Communist governments were eager for people to have television, as a way of changing official propaganda, but less anxious for them to have telephones.

So television sets are almost universal in Eastern Europe but phones are scarce. Ten many telephones were seen as a way for people to organize or spread rumors.

Now, with the movement toward market economies and freedom of expression, the demand for telephone service is well beyond what the rundown, technologically backward state-run telephone systems can provide.

The joke in Hungary, for example, is that half the population of 10 million is waiting for a telephone, and the other half is waiting

Investor's Europe

Exchange	Index	Tuesday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Frankfurt DAX		2,182.93	2,178.16	+0.22
London FTSE 100 Index		3,342.40	3,364.90	-0.67
Paris CAC 40		2,215.86	2,223.47	-0.34
Amsterdam CBS Trend		145.80	146.10	-0.21
Brussels Stock Index		7,360.95	7,302.85	+0.80
Frankfurt DAX		2,182.93	2,178.16	+0.22
Frankfurt FAZ		832.04	828.69	+0.40
Helsinki HEX		1,548.93	1,536.52	+0.81
London Financial Times 30		2,508.90	2,517.10	-0.33
London FTSE 100		3,342.40	3,364.90	-0.67
Madrid General Index		316.58	310.96	+1.81
Milan MIB		1,339.00	1,331.00	+0.60
Paris CAC 40		2,215.86	2,223.47	-0.34
Stockholm Affarsvaeriden		1,800.37	1,595.37	+0.31
Vienna Stock Index		463.96	467.02	-0.22
Zurich SBS		985.91	991.06	+0.49

Very briefly:

- Saatchi & Saatchi Co.'s founders, Charles and Maurice Saatchi, have split their joint stake in the advertising company, leading to speculation about a possible split-up of the business.
- Denmark's central bank cut its discount rate and its folio rate a quarter of a percentage point, in 6.25 percent, effective Wednesday.
- Canal Plus SA, the French pay-television company, will raise its stake in Compagnie Generale de Videocommunications, a unit of Compagnie Generale des Eaux, in 20 percent from 5 percent, industry sources said.
- Volvo AB plans to sell certain assets. Chief Executive Soren Gyll said in an interview with Le Monde. He said Volvo's new board would decide which assets to sell but said the Swedish automaker's 20 percent stake in Renault SA of France would not be among them.
- Scandinavian Airline Systems reached an agreement in principle with the Fokker NV unit of Deutsche Aerospace AG to buy five Fokker F-50 projects, an SAS vice president said, in a transaction estimated at 100 million to 150 million guilders (\$52.6 million to \$78.9 million).
- Philips Electronics NV's Dutch unit will cut 1,000 jobs a year over the next few years, according to Jan Post, chairman of the unit. Philips now has a Dutch work force of 40,000, compared with 100,000 in the 1960s.

ENI Forecasts Improvement

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

ROME — The state-owned energy company ENI expects to break even or post "only a minimal loss" for 1993, after a deficit of \$51 billion last year (\$504.7 million) for 1992, its managing director, Franco Bernabè, has said.

ENI has sold about 30 companies this year under the government's privatization program, Mr. Bernabè said. He said the company would name the successful bidder for ENI's gas-turbine maker, Nuovo Fimagine, in a matter of days.

erating profit, to about 4.48 trillion lire from 3.48 trillion lire last year. As for 1994, Mr. Bernabè said he expected Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi's revised industrial strategy and continued cutbacks to allow a return to profit.

Although restructuring costs continued to be high in 1993 after reaching 1.4 trillion lire in 1992, Mr. Bernabè said late Monday, the improved net result will be made possible by a sharp increase in op-

UAL-Lufthansa Link Delayed

Bloomberg Business News

PARIS — The United States and Germany appear headed for a dispute over United Airlines' request for approval of its linkup with Lufthansa AG.

In October, the two airlines signed an accord that provided for extensive links. The code-sharing was scheduled to begin Jan. 10, but the U.S. Department of Transportation has not yet given its approval of the accord, preventing the two airlines from implementing code-sharing on that date.

Lufthansa says the alliance is being held hostage to the demands of U.S. carriers for broader flying rights from the German market.

Sweden, Austria See Breakthrough in EC Talks

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BRUSSELS — Sweden and Austria reported a breakthrough Tuesday in their negotiations to join the European Community along with Norway and Finland on Jan. 1, 1995.

They said the four countries had won the right to maintain high environmental and health standards that exceed the EC's harmonized single-market rules.

Sweden's European affairs minister, Ulf Dinkelspiel, said: "This is a major breakthrough."

The term was also used by Austrian Foreign Minister Alois Mock to describe the talks. "I'm very pleased we can maintain higher environmental standards," he said. Mr. Dinkelspiel added that the EC "will raise their ambitions in this field."

Negotiations must be finished by March to allow applicants to hold national votes on membership.

The negotiations Tuesday between EC foreign ministers and their counterparts from the four applicant countries did not touch on agricultural subsidies — the most controversial unresolved issue.

Diplomats said the four candidate countries had unconditionally accepted most of the Treaty on European Union, which came into force Nov. 1. The Maastricht treaty provides for common foreign and security policies, economic integration leading to a single currency, and cooperation in immigration and justice affairs.

There was no accord on the single-currency issue because of a Spanish threat on Monday to hold up the enlargement negotiations on the grounds that the four candidate countries, being relatively wealthy,

British Gas Need Not Sell Trading Business

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

LONDON — British Gas PLC must end its monopoly on supply to small users to introduce more competition into the gas market, the government ruled Tuesday.

But the formerly state-owned company, the world's largest gas supplier in terms of assets and sales, will not be required to sell its gas-trading unit, under the order

from the Department of Trade and Industry. The Monopolies and Mergers Commission had recommended such a step.

The trade department said merely the company must split its trading and transportation businesses.

Last week, British Gas announced plans to create six separate businesses, including units for trading and for transportation, to re-

place its existing 12-region structure. The company welcomed the decision, saying it moved the industry toward "long-term regulatory stability and the achievement of a balance of interests between consumers, shareholders and employees."

But British Gas shares fell 10 pence, to 346 pence, in London. In New York, the company's American depositary receipts were \$1.50 lower, at \$52.50, in late trading.

would upset the economic balance in the EC.

Spain's European affairs minister, Carlos Westendorp, had said enlargement would make it more difficult for Spain to qualify for a single currency bloc by 1999. But Mr. Mock said this was just an "internal problem" of the Community.

Norway, Finland and Austria are all insisting on retaining their high levels of protection for fragile Alpine, Arctic and sub-Arctic farms, which are far higher than the levels permitted by the EC.

EC officials said the candidate countries had been given a four-year period — until 1999 — to maintain their high environmental standards after joining the EC.

Over that period, the EC will try to raise its own standards to match those of the newcomers.

(AFP, AP)

NASDAQ

Tuesday's Prices
NASDAQ prices as of 3 p.m. New York time. This list compiled by the AP, consists of the 1,000 most traded securities in terms of dollar value. It is updated twice a year.

12 Month High	12 Month Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	12 Month High	12 Month Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	12 Month High	12 Month Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE
120	110	IBM	4.00	3.5	15	120	110	IBM	4.00	3.5	15	120	110	IBM	4.00	3.5	15
100	90	Microsoft	0.00	0.0	10	100	90	Microsoft	0.00	0.0	10	100	90	Microsoft	0.00	0.0	10
80	70	Oracle	0.00	0.0	12	80	70	Oracle	0.00	0.0	12	80	70	Oracle	0.00	0.0	12
60	50	Intel	0.00	0.0	15	60	50	Intel	0.00	0.0	15	60	50	Intel	0.00	0.0	15
40	30	Sun	0.00	0.0	18	40	30	Sun	0.00	0.0	18	40	30	Sun	0.00	0.0	18
20	10	HP	0.00	0.0	20	20	10	HP	0.00	0.0	20	20	10	HP	0.00	0.0	20

SPORTS

Norway's Aamodt Hopes Home's Where the Gold Is

By Ken Shulman

Special to the Herald Tribune

VAL GARDENA, Italy — Not every athlete, as Kjetil Andre Aamodt observed, has the chance to compete in the Olympic Games on his native soil at the top of his career. The Norwegian skier, 22, who is second in the World Cup standings, will have that chance in February in Lillehammer, where he will compete for medals in all four Alpine disciplines.

The only question is whether Aamodt is anywhere near his peak. It is almost frightening to think that this already accomplished skier could have substantial room for improvement.

"The Olympics are my main goal for this season," says Aamodt, who won the Super-G gold medal and a bronze in the giant slalom at the 1992 Winter Games in Albertville, France.

"What I'd really like to do is win a medal in the downhill," he added. "I like it when Norway does well in competition. And it means a lot to me when people say they enjoyed watching me race."

A sort of innate sensibility that seems to emanate from the bottom of his skis and allows him to glide almost effortlessly over the flatter sections of the course, picking up time and speed in places where his adversaries usually lose velocity.

Last year was an extraordinary one for Aamodt. He won six races on the World Cup tour — three giant slalom and three Super-G — more than any other skier on the tour, and twice as many as the overall World Cup titlist, Marc Girardelli of Luxembourg. At the World Championships in Morioka, Japan, Aamodt hit gold in both the slalom and giant slalom, and won a silver medal in the downhill-slam combined event.

It is typical of Aamodt to single out the ooe event — the downhill — for which he does not train. Along with Girardelli and Austria's Günther Mader, the athletes who will be his main competition for this year's overall title, Aamodt is one of the few skiers on the tour who is a legitimate threat in the slalom, giant slalom, Super-G, and downhill.

Veratility has its advantages. Girardelli, a five-time World Cup champion, is a four-event skier, as was the four-time champion Pirmin Zurbriggen of Switzerland.

The current World Cup scoring system, which awards points to the top 30 finishers in every race, tends to favor consistent placement over occasional victory. All-around athletes like Aamodt can pick up points in every scheduled race, while specialists like Italy's Alberto Tomba, who competes only in the slalom and giant slalom, have far fewer chances to add to their point totals.

But veratility also has its downside. Aamodt, who finished second to Girardelli by a handful of points in last year's World Cup tally, will compete in 34 races this year. Tomba, who leads Aamodt in the current overall standings by 7 points, and other technical specialists only have to train for 18 races. Speed demons like last year's World Cup downhill champion, Franz Heinzer of Switzerland, leave the starting gate just 16 times a season.

The specialists have more time to concentrate on their specific events. While Tomba spent Friday and Saturday preparing for Sunday's giant slalom in Val Badia and Mooney's slalom at Madonna di Campiglio, Aamodt ran two downhill races in nearby Val Gardena. Kjetil paid the price on Sunday and Monday. With his muscles stiffer than usual, he was less dynamic and

slower through the sharply angled gates and finished 8th and 11th.

"It's hard to be at your best for every race," says Aamodt. "I still had jet lag from my return trip from the United States when I ran the trials for the downhill in Val d'Isère 11 days ago."

"With the schedule the way it is," he added, "I have to change hotels nearly every day. I spend a lot of time in the car, and a lot of time moving equipment. It's very tiring."

Like Girardelli, who is trained by his father, Helmut, Aamodt is coached by his father, Finn. The senior Aamodt views his son's athletic training as part of a larger preparation for life.

"Kjetil must learn to act and react properly in all situations," said Aamodt, 42, who first put his son on skis at the age of 5 on a slope near their home in Oslo. "The most important thing I have taught him is to be honest with himself and with others. It is a philosophy that is not easy to learn, and even harder to practice. The skiing in itself is not so difficult."

In competition, Aamodt is at his best on giant slalom and Super-G courses, especially on the flatter runs, where he can exploit his extraordinary gift for gliding.

A racer can regain his momentum after a mistake on a steep section and make up for his lost time. In the flats, where even the slightest error means the difference between a medal and a distant placement, Aamodt accelerates through the gates, as if pushed by an invisible wind.

Aamodt's greatest obstacle thus far has been his health. In 1990, he broke his left ankle during training. Three months later, he sprained the same ankle while skateboarding and was laid up for three months. At the 1991 World Championships in Seefeld, Austria, he took the silver medal in the Super-G. But a bad fall in downhill training left him with a broken thumb and a concussion, knocking him out of the rest of the competition.

In November 1991, he contracted mononucleosis. Unable to eat, he wound up in the hospital, losing 12 kilograms (26 pounds) and leaving him far behind in his conditioning and preparation.

Although he has yet to win a race this year — unlike Mader, who has won two — Aamodt is the overwhelming favorite for the World Cup title.

"I'm off to a decent start this year," he said. "But I want to win races. The overall World Cup title is the most important in the sport. Naturally, I want to be consistent. But I also want to be a winner."

Yankees Sign Polonia And Mets Pick Up Olson

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

While two dozen more players became free agents, the New York Yankees brought back the outfielder Luis Polonia and the New York Mets signed the former Atlanta Braves catcher Greg Olson.

Polonia, who played with the Yankees in 1989 and '91, agreed to a \$3 million, two-year contract Monday. Olson got a \$500,000, one-year deal from the Mets, who let the catcher Charlie O'Brien go free, allowing him to sign a \$1.1 million, two-year contract with the Braves.

"We needed a leadoff hitter, and Luis Polonia gives us that," said the Yankees general manager, Gene Michael. "He's an aggressive player who is exciting, and gives us needed speed."

After Ricky Henderson refused his offer to return to New York as their leadoff hitter and left fielder, the Yankees agreed to fill the void and settled on another former Yankee player in Polonia, 29, the void and settled on another former Yankee player in Polonia, 29, the void and settled on another former Yankee player in Polonia, 29.

Although Polonia has no power and is not as sound defensively as Henderson, he is six years younger and is comparable in other offensive areas. He hit .271 with one homer, 32 RBIs and 55 stolen bases for the California Angels in 1993, when he made \$2,475,000. He has a .294 career average in six and a half seasons with Oakland, the Yankees and California.

Texas, meanwhile, added to its pitching by agreeing to a \$600,000 minor-league contract with the left-hander Bruce Hurst, 35, a deal with performance bonuses that could raise his earnings to \$2.75 million, his 1993 salary.

And Joe McIlwaine, the Mets top baseball executive, said that talks with Cleveland about a trade involving Bret Saberhagen had ended, and that negotiations also had ceased about a possible trade of outfielder Bobby Bonilla to Baltimore. (AP, N.Y.C.)



TRIUMPHANT STRIDE — Vladimir Smirnov of Kazakhstan heading for his second victory of the season on Tuesday in the 10-kilometer World Cup cross-country race in Dobbiaco, Italy.

North Carolina Coach Runs an Old Lesson by Pitt

The Associated Press

Adolph Rupp, the late Kentucky coach, used to say that he sent in his scrubs late in games to show them why they were scrubs.

It's a lesson that's still being taught, particularly by the man who is closing in on Rupp's career victory record.

North Carolina's Dean Smith won his 783rd game, 92 shy of Rupp's mark, and got to work teaching as well Monday night as the second-ranked Tar Heels battered Pittsburgh, 106-93.

The visiting Tar Heels (9-1) got Pitt's 6-foot-11 Eric Mobley in foul trouble and went on a 26-8 run to push the margin to 27 points before the subs took over. Pitt (5-2) cut it to 14 with 1:24 to play when Smith made his move. Pitt's coach, Paul Evans, was upset when Carolina's regulars came back in the game, but it wasn't that Smith was trying to run up the score.

"Coach didn't think they were hustling without the ball," center Eric Montross said of the reserves. "He put us back in as an example for the younger guys."

Smith said such lessons were important for the team that, as defending national champion, was everybody's target.

"I think our players realize that what happened last year was last year, and we have a new team this year, a new challenge," Smith said. "We expect to play well, but that is just as much of a challenge to us as it was last year."

Pitt, playing before the largest indoor sports crowd in Pittsburgh history — 17,716 — had the hot hand early, leading 8-0 and 11-3. The Panthers led most of the first half. North Carolina got the half-time advantage only when Donald Williams made two free throws for a 47-45 lead.

Pitt was still in reach at 56-49 when the 21-meter-tall Mobley picked up his fourth foul with 17½ minutes to play. He managed only two more minutes, and the Tar Heels had things their own way.

No. 6 Kansas 101, Furman 60; Richard Scott scored 14 points and

Steve Woodberry 13 as Kansas (10-1) won for the 408th time in 500 games since Allen Fieldhouse opened in Lawrence in 1955.

The Jayhawks shot 62 percent, 17 better than their average at

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

No. 9 UCLA 106, Houston 93: The O'Bannon brothers, Ed and Charles, scored 18 and 16 points, as UCLA coasted in its first visit to Houston since the "Game of the Century" of 1968. In that game, in the Astrodome, Houston upset the perennial national champions, 71-

Michigan 44: In Ann Arbor, Michigan, Jalen Rose scored 12 of his 16 points in the first half as the Wolverines (6-1) bounced back from last week's 73-63 loss to Duke. Michigan led 37-25 at the half, then opened the second half with a 16-3 burst.

No. 14 Georgia Tech 79, Mount St. Mary's, Maryland 62: In Atlanta, James Forrest and Travis Best scored 17 points each for the Yellow Jackets (7-1), who led 42-22 at halftime and 55-29 four minutes into the second half.

No. 19 Illinois 79, Jackson State 63: In Champaign, Illinois, Deon Thomas scored 24 points as the Illini (6-1) struggled. Jackson State (4-4) trailed by eight points with eight minutes left, but baskets by Thomas and Kwame Garris pushed the lead back to double figures.

and Kwame Garris pushed the lead back to double figures.

No. 22 Oklahoma State 73, Tulsa 61: In Tulsa, Oklahoma, Randy Rutherford hit two 3-pointers to provide a cushion and grabbed three big rebounds down the stretch as the Cowboys (7-2) took the wind out of the Hurricane (4-1).

Rutherford, who scored 19 points, helped the Cowboys to an 11-point lead, but Tulsa cut it to 61-58 with three minutes left. But the Hurricane mistimed and Rutherford grabbed rebounds three times to keep the Cowboys safe.

SIDELINES

Canceled Women's Ski Races Reset

FLACHAU, Austria (Combined Dispatches) — A women's Alpine skiing World Cup Super-G race that was canceled Tuesday because of pouring rain will be held on the same course on Wednesday, the organizers said.

In Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, a women's downhill originally scheduled for Leysin, Switzerland, was added Tuesday to a weekend of racing at the German resort and will be held on Jan. 28, the German ski federation said. The Dec. 11 race had to be abandoned because of bad weather and also was called off at a later date in Veyrier-sur-Oron, Switzerland.

The downhill will now come a day before two regularly scheduled races — a downhill on Jan. 29 and a Super-G on Jan. 30. (Reuters, AP)

Wilander, Austin Set for Australia

MELBOURNE (AP) — The three-time champion Mats Wilander of Sweden and the former U.S. Open titleholder Tracy Austin of the United States will both attempt comebacks in next month's Australian Open tennis championship.

Wilander has been granted a wild card for the Jan. 17-31 tournament while Austin has improved her ranking enough to gain direct entry into the main draw of the first Grand Slam tournament of the year.

Austin had applied for a wild card, but recently lifted her ranking and enters the draw at 106. Austin has competed in only one Australian Open in her career, in 1981, when she reached the quarterfinals.

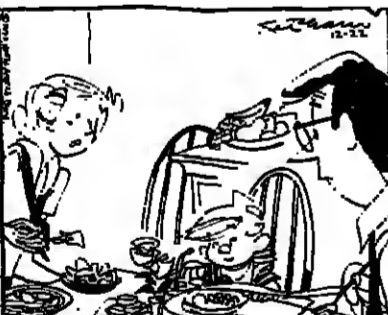
For the Record

Team Sweden defeated Team USA, 8-3, on Tuesday for third place in the Izvestia Cup ice hockey tournament in Moscow. (AP)

The Nigerian striker Rashidi Yekini, 30, who plays for the Portuguese club Victoria Setúbal, has been named African soccer player of the year, the Confederation of African Football announced Tuesday. (Reuters)

Michael Nunn will defend his WBA super-middleweight title against Steve Little on Feb. 26 in London, the promoters announced, on the same card as Nigel Benn's WBC title defense against Henry Wharton. (AP)

DENNIS THE MENACE



Jesus was lucky. He was born in a stable so he probably had a pony right away.

PEANUTS



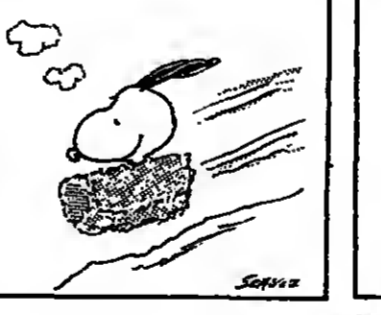
WHERE'S MY BIG FURRY HAT? HAS ANYONE SEEN MY BIG FURRY HAT?

CALVIN AND HOBBES



WHAT IF THERE IS NO SANTA CLAUS? YOU KNOW, A LOT OF THIS SANTA STUFF IS HARD TO BELIEVE. THE FLYING REINDEER, GOING AROUND THE WORLD IN ONE NIGHT, THE WHOLE CHIMNEY BIT...

WIZARD of ID



I WANT A VOLUNTEER FOR A SUICIDE MISSION. I'LL GO, YOU SAILED-OFF, PIE-FACED, LITTLE FINK! WHY DID YOU VOLUNTEER? IT WAS WORTH IT!

REX MORGAN



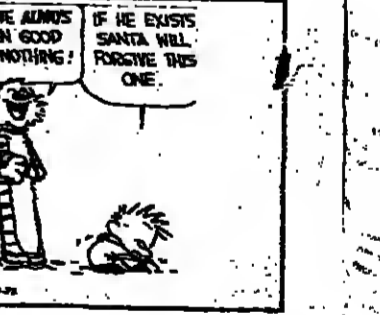
THANKS FOR GIVING ME A RIDE IN MY NAME, DEXTER! I GOT THE FEELING IT WAS VERY IMPORTANT YOU GET THAT MICROWAVE HOME TODAY! IT IS! MY SISTER WILL BE HOME SOON — AND SHE STILL HAS THE MESS TO CLEAN UP!

DOONESBURY



THIS IS A MAN! MR. SLOOM, GIVE YOU THE HERE BIG TIME! CANT BE, MAN! THIS IS ANY OFF BASES! AS WAS YOUR EN-TIRE FIRST PROOF, HARKEN YOU HELD THE SQUARE ROOT OF 144 TO BE 12. WELL, SURE, FROM A NARROW, ZERO-LUTIST, SURVEY-ORIC RESPECTIVE, WAVE IT'S 12. SO MY CLEARER TEACHES IT'S 6, MAN! FASCINATING, HELD THIS BE AN APPROVED CONJECTURE!

GARFIELD



HEH EVERYBODY, I'M BACK WITH A CHRISTMAS TREE! DID YOU CHOP DOWN A GOOD ONE, DOC BOY? GEE, SON, THAT LOOKS JUST LIKE THE TREE IN OUR FRONT YARD. YOU BET! AND IT WAS EASY TO FIND! I GET THE FEELING THAT'S WHAT MADE IT SO EASY!

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unjumble each word by moving the letters around. You may use each letter only once. The words are listed in the order in which they appear in the story.

DULIF _____

AGGUE _____

TOXICE _____

STEWEN _____

Now arrange the coded letters to form the words. Answers appearing in this column are correct.

Answers: ANOKE MAKER GAMBLE PRINCE created — A WRECK OF LAMB

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سكيا من الامم

OBSERVER

The Claus Problem

By Russell Baker

NEW YORK — Santa Claus was a problem from the beginning, but I always liked him, and still do, and have no patience with people who don't. He brings fantasy and good feeling into our lives.

From that early moment when reason first began to spoil for me the pure pleasures of existing, I tended toward skepticism about Santa Claus.

It was not until the fever of youth had subsided and I had passed beyond middle age's desperate struggle to pass for a grown-up that I fully escaped this gloom.

It originated because the house in which I first became aware of being alive had no fireplace. Santa Claus, who delivered his goods by coming down chimneys, left some at my house despite its lack of a chimney.

This is the evil seed of skepticism planted in the unformed mind. I must have raised this question with an adult who told me that we did indeed have a chimney, which was the truth.

To heat the parlor we used a wood-burning stove. It was vented through a metal pipe that extended from the stove into the wall, conducting the smoke into a vertical shaft, which is to say a chimney.

Still, the physical improbability of a fat man in a red suit entering our front room through that metal pipe, barely nine inches in diameter, which even then would have to squeeze a corpulent figure and a bag of gifts — well, skepticism comes naturally to children with their primitive instinct for survival.

It takes a good deal of aging to outgrow it. It takes age's gift for reflection, too. One day, if you have that, you interrupt your perpetual whining at the world long enough to reflect that in just smirking having arrived here in this amazing world called life, you have been the beneficiary of miracles far more improbable than it would take to get Santa Claus through that metal pipe and out of our wood-burning stove.

As a child afflicted with reason, and therefore cunning, I did not express my skepticism to grown-ups. Cunningly I reasoned that since declarations of our doubts might provoke a cutoff of Christmas goodies.

Eventually, of course, puberty did its work, adolescence loomed on the horizon, and I was smitten by the terrible need to behave like a man of the world.

Even then, however, Santa Claus retained power over me. Something about him made me feel — absurdly, inexplicably, nonsensically, irrationally — good.

I became aware of this strange power as a young man living in Baltimore, where one of the downtown department stores each year placed a laughing Santa Claus in a big window looking into the street. Life-size and remarkably lifelike, he sat on a throne of some sort, rocked ceaselessly from side to side and simply laughed, loudly and joyously.

Hour after hour the amplified roar of this laughter sounded through downtown Baltimore, drawing crowds to the window to investigate, then to be infected by the sound of it until it became impossible not to laugh with it.

The street was always packed with people standing there feeling as silly, I suppose, as I did about laughing and about feeling good for no sensible reason.

Soon after that I had to deal with the Santa Claus problem as a parent and did so by enthusiastically disengaging my children from any sensible adults who had mastered life's psychological pitfalls sufficiently to treat fantasy as dangerous to the young.

When our first-born was not quite 2 I took her downtown to enjoy the excitement of that December's busyness and see the laughing Santa Claus. Alas, it was gone now, but I found a human Santa Claus in another shop window.

"Santa Claus," I said to her. "Wave to him. Say hello." She smiled with utter credulity — without a trace of skepticism — and said, "Hello, Santa Claus." What a beautiful memory it is.

New York Times Service

Ivana Skied While The Donald Wed Marla

By Roxanne Roberts

NEW YORK — After naming their 2-month-old daughter Tiffany, anything else Donald Trump and Marla Maples dream up seems somehow anticlimactic. Impervious to that which restrains or underestimates, the real estate developer and his Georgia blonde long ago passed into a category of their own, where Too Much is True: Trump.

So it should surprise no one that when The Donald and Marla finally blazed the matrimonial trail Monday night, it was with 1,000 of their closest friends in the grand ballroom of Trump's Plaza Hotel — once managed by his former wife, Ivana, for \$1 and "all the dresses she could buy." And that there were hundreds of cameras, thousands of white orchids and one tiera with 325 diamonds worth \$2 million or so. The tab for the evening, including about \$60,000 worth of caviar, looked to be about \$1 million — with Trump, a man possessed of an envious net worth, you never know.

"The bride was a vision in white — just absolutely gorgeous," said New York Mayor David Dinkins. "Donald just beamed. It was a lovely, lovely ceremony."

What mattered to the bride was "all the warmth in the room," she said. "Looking out and seeing our friends and family that have been there through everything with us. Reading from 'The Prophet.' Just holding his hand tight and knowing we were home."

It was a ceremony many thought would never take place. After the Divorce of the Decade in 1991 from the first Mrs. Trump (just Ivana now, celebrated roman a clef novelist and shopping network diva) and six years of the on-again, off-again, on-again affair with the aspiring actress Marla Maples, Trump said he was persuaded to marry again by this month's showings on a Long Island commuter train. "I figured life is short," he said, although it's unclear whether the multimillionaire has ever, in fact, set foot on a commuter train.

The media gobbled up the spectacle. Trump is the publicity-crazed man they love to hate, but no detail of the hastily planned extravaganza is too small to report.

The New York Daily News columnist Amy Papozzi broke her self-imposed Trump ban with this wedding. "Tacky. Overblown. Deprived in its conception," she wrote. "Sure, things happen, people commit adultery, have out-of-wedlock kids — but they can, nevertheless, be a little abashed about it."

But, no, this was an all-white wedding. Not even the champagne blushed. After the ceremony, the newlyweds posed for frenzied photographers, who persuaded the couple to dip and kiss, not once, not twice, but four times.

The bride, 30, wore something borrowed (the tiera with a 20-carat pear-shaped stone on top, loaned by jeweler Ronald Winston), and something white (this is, friends point out, her first marriage). The gown, made of double-faced satin, was off-the-shoulder and tightly fitted, with a simple but low V-neckline and tulle veil by designer Carolina Herrera. Her custom wedding dress cost \$15,000 for ordinary mortals.



The newlyweds dip and kiss for the hoard of frenzied photographers.

Trump "has got a middle-class mentality," said New York Post columnist Cindy Adams, "which means you do the right thing: Have a baby, you marry the lady."

There was no time to send engraved invitations, so the wedding guests received personal phone calls. Among the attendees: New York Senator Al D'Amato, Howard Stern, Bianca Jagger, Robin Leach, Tommy Tune, Susan Lucci, Rosie O'Donnell, Adam Karshoggi, O. J. Simpson, Randall Cunningham, Evander Holyfield, Joe Frazier, Don King and assorted models in various states of dress.

One family member who missed the ceremony: Tiffany Arana Trump, born Oct. 13. The pregnancy was announced at a news conference in the lobby of the Palace Theatre, where Marla was starring in "The Will Roger Follies." The baby was named by her daddy, who acquired the air rights over the famed Fifth Avenue jewelry store to build Trump Tower.

Tiffany, wearing her own itty-bitty designer duds, was present for pre-nuptial pictures but was excused from the ceremony for security reasons. A chip off the old block, Tiffany has already inspired a business empire: Maternity Moods by Marla, "stylish" maternity clothes introduced by the new mom last week at Macy's.

Trump's three children by his first marriage — Donald Jr., 16, Ivanka, 12, and Eric, 9 — were scheduled to attend the festivities but decided, according to Ivana, not to come.

Ivana, who is skiing in Aspen, Colorado, was not invited. Clark Jones, the former Maples publicist who is accused of stealing her shoes and is suing Trump for \$700 million, also didn't make the guest list.

Jule Styne Loses Shoes

On Great White Way

Jule Styne, the 87-year-old composer of a string of hits including "Gypsy," saw his latest musical comedy become one of Broadway's most expensive flops. "The Red Shoes," a musical about ballet, was nicknamed "The Dead Sublimated" after a series of highly publicized start-up misdeeds and a run of dismal reviews. Following a series of other unsuccessful stage adaptations of movies, including "Paper Moon," "The Goodbye Girl," "Carrie," and "Nick and Nora," it closed after five performances, posting a loss of \$8 million.

At last, Jule Styne told Family Circle magazine that it was more effective to exercise "at a moderate level for a longer time" than to "go for the burn." The 57-year-old fitness advocate said she has put on a few pounds since overcoming business and that she was becoming more comfortable with her body.

John Grisham, author of "The Firm" and "The Pelican Brief," said he was "up to his ears" trying to meet a Dec. 31 deadline to finish "The Chamber," his fifth novel, a story about Mississippi's death row. Universal bought the film rights last summer for an estimated \$3.75 million.

Just as horses, Kim Bessinger and Alec Baldwin rallied on behalf of New York City carriage horses, meeting politicians and at one point engaging in a shouting match with a carriage driver, in a bid to defeat a proposal which would let carriage drivers expand working hours.

Jean-Claude Van Damme, the martial arts actor, was sued for allegedly molesting a woman at a New Orleans hotel last year when he was filming a movie in the city. The lawsuit said the woman had been out to dinner with Van Damme and two others. The four had checked into two separate but adjoining hotel rooms after visiting several bars, according to allegations in the lawsuit.

Then there were the white orchids that covered the ballroom; the altar of white birches draped with crystal facets; the 19-piece, five-tier, six-foot vanilla-custard wedding cake; and the sushi, smoked fish, lamb, turkey, beef and other goodies.

The couple, however, have not forgotten the less fortunate. Trump's own photographers had exclusive access to the ceremony and those pictures will be available for sale, with the proceeds going to the Trump foundation and distributed to charity.

"We thank the media for their interest and for their understanding of our wish to dedicate the private moments of this special day to a charitable purpose," the couple said in a statement.

PEOPLE

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No word on whether charity begins at home: Trump and Maples have been mum on terms of a prenuptial agreement. Trump renegotiated his deal with Ivana four times during their 13 years of marriage; she ended up with about \$25 million.

Maples told reporters she would happily sign whatever was necessary to make Trump's bankers happy.

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED
Appears on Pages 6 & 15

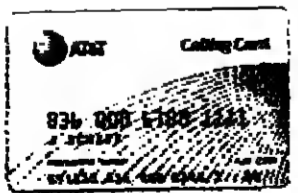
WEATHER

Weather forecast section including maps for Europe, North America, Asia, Africa, Latin America, and Oceania. Includes temperature and precipitation forecasts for various regions.

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Crossword puzzle section with clues for Across and Down words. Includes a solution to the puzzle for Dec. 21.

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Table of AT&T Access Numbers for various countries. Columns include Country, Access Number, and Country. Lists include Asia, Europe, Middle East, Americas, and Africa.

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Handwritten Arabic text: "معلومات الاتصال"